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'PATTEN HAS DAMAGED HONG KONG'
A former envoy to China hits back

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Dearing to unveil vision for future

All students to do work experience

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

TOMORROW

ALL students would have to do work experience to earn their degrees under a package of measures to be put forward by Sir Ron Dearing today to safeguard the quality of courses and make graduates more employable.

Sir Ron's 1,700-page report, detailing a 20-year vision for higher education, will propose a new teaching qualification for lecturers, national standards for university courses and a core of accredited external examiners to see that they are enforced. Ministers are expected to back the plans with an autumn White Paper.

Well-trailed proposals to charge almost a million students tuition fees of up to £1,000 a year are intended to address the universities' funding problems. But the committee believes that if students are to pay for themselves, they will demand a "reliable product which has standing in the marketplace".

The proposed expansion of work experience, allied to a new emphasis on "key skills" of communication, numeracy and competence in information technology, is a response to employers' criticisms of the quality of graduates and would apply even to purely academic areas such as classics.

Sir Ron has been impressed by schemes like Shell's Technology Enterprise Programme, which places 1,500 undergraduates with companies each year. The committee estimates that the lack of formal work experience is costing business £350 million

Full details and analysis of the Dearing report on further education will be published in *The Times* tomorrow, including an article by David Blunkett, the Education Secretary.

a year in unnecessary graduate training. The new pattern of courses would not replicate existing sandwich degrees, where students spend up to a year in employment. But there would be a "strong expectation" that all courses would include a short placement.

As the report is published, the Government will set out its own revision of Sir Ron's funding proposals, phasing out maintenance grants as well as introducing fees. David Blunkett, the Education and Employment Secretary, who has been forced into action by a £3 billion projected shortfall in university budgets, will emphasise that students from low-income families will be spared fees.

With those from poor backgrounds facing the loss of grants worth up to £2,100 a year, however, students have promised determined resistance and will get strong support from the Left.

Sir Ron's 17-strong committee concluded that standards had been maintained, in spite of a rapid expansion in student numbers and low entry requirements in many institutions. But the report will sound a warning on the dan-

gers of underfunding and suggest that some academic practices are storing up trouble for the future.

A national pool of external examiners, for example, is intended to put an end to cosy relationships between academics who approve each others' awards. The teaching of degree courses in further education colleges will also be tightly controlled.

The newly-formed Quality Assurance Agency would accredit examiners and oversee the development of a teaching qualification by a new licensing authority. Universities themselves would agree "threshold" standards in the main subjects, setting out precisely what students and employers can expect.

Sir Ron is also anxious to raise the status of teaching within higher education. Only half of Britain's academics have a teaching qualification, and a poll of staff conducted for the inquiry found that only 3 per cent believed that their career prospects hinged on the quality of their teaching.

The poll also showed that a third of academics felt there were too few adequately qualified students for the places available in their department, and a quarter said they were covering ground that should have been the preserve of schools and colleges.

A separate poll of students found 70 per cent satisfied with the teaching they received, but almost 60 per cent of those in new universities were dissatisfied with library facilities.



The Princess of Wales consoles the singer Elton John during the Requiem Mass for murdered Gianni Versace in Milan cathedral yesterday

Princess offers comfort at Versace Mass

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

THE Princess of Wales yesterday joined thousands of Milanese and a constellation of tearful fashion and entertainment personalities in a final tribute to the murdered designer Gianni Versace.

The Princess flew to Milan from Cannes aboard a private jet made available by the singer Elton John.

She was then driven to the designer's studio in Via del Gesù and met by his brother Santo and sister Donatella, who accompanied her to a

courtyard where the urn containing the ashes of Versace had been placed on a makeshift altar together with candles, a photograph and a copy of a book he wrote.

Other mourners at the Via del Gesù included Versace's fashion rival Valentino, Karl Lagerfeld, who has offered to design for the Versace family, Anna Wintour, the Editor of *Vogue*, Carla Bruni, the model and 230 seamstresses from a company in the northern town of Novara who stitched the flamboyant designer's creations.

Most of the mourners then

went to Milan's imposing Cathedral where a Requiem Mass was celebrated in memory of the designer who was killed by a gunman outside his villa in Miami's South Beach last week.

Sting and Elton John sang an arrangement of *The Lord is My Shepherd* during Communion and John was comforted by the Princess and a friend as he cried in the front pew.

Santo Versace, the administrative wizard of the company, who is currently appealing against a bribery conviction, looked self-possessed in white baseball shoes and a black

pullover during the service. The Milanese Curia was at pains to point out that the service was not a funeral since the formal funeral had been held in Miami before the ashes were taken to the Versace villa on the banks of Lake Como by the designer's sister.

In his homily, Monsignor Angelo Maio recalled that "faced with the mystery of death, the best attitude is silence... this is not a show, it is a gesture of faith that is rich in meaning."



Naomi Campbell at the Versace villa

Gas link, page 9

Cabinet role for Lib Dems

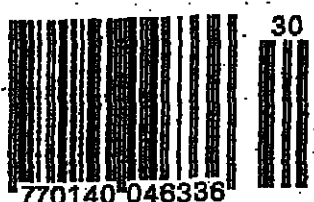
Tony Blair yesterday took a step towards closer co-operation between Labour and the Liberal Democrats with the announcement of a new Cabinet committee with membership split between the two parties. The committee will focus on issues of mutual interest, including the constitution. Page 8

Test pitch switch

England dismissed suggestions of skulduggery over the decision to switch the pitch for the fourth Test against Australia, which begins at Headingley tomorrow. Page 48

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Blair faces revolt over Welsh assembly plans

By VALERIE ELLIOTT, WHITEHALL EDITOR

TONY Blair was given his first taste of a backbench revolt on a manifesto pledge last night when six Welsh Labour MPs declared their unhappiness with the proposals for a Welsh assembly.

They told Ron Davies, Welsh Secretary, that they were deeply concerned under the Government's plans, unveiled in a White Paper yesterday, most public bodies would remain intact after devolution. It was far from the much vaunted "bonfire of the quangos" that they had been promised.

Sir Raymond Powell, MP for Ogmore, said last night he intended to vote against the Bill because of his opposition to proportional representation in the election of 20 out of the 60 assembly members.

It was clear that the mood among the Welsh "devotees" and opponents was hardening and there were

some discussions among Labour MPs on how to mount a "Vote No" campaign. Last night Llew Smith, Labour MP for Blaenau Gwent, who last month claimed Mr Davies had attempted to gag him over his opposition to devolution by threatening him with expul-



"When you said a two-week holiday abroad, I just thought..."

sion from the party, said: "It is quite clear now that this whole claim about scrapping the quangos was a PR stunt."

Mr Davies failed to persuade a group of longstanding critics and he was given a rough ride in the Commons. Ted Rowlands, MP for Merthyr Tydfil and Rhymney, said: "Sadly I do not think this is going to be a bonfire of the quangos. The vast majority is going to survive to the summer of 2004. Why?"

Alan Williams, MP for Swansea West, said: "Is he not offering the people of Wales the constitutional equivalent of a mystery tour?"

There was also criticism from Allan Rogers, Rhondda, and, unexpectedly, from Alan Williams, MP for Carmarthen East and Dinefwr.

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Broadcaster Hanna dies after heart attack

By CAROL MIDDLELEY MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

VINCENT HANNA, one of Britain's most prominent political broadcasters, died in hospital last night following a heart attack.

Mr Hanna, 57, collapsed in Belfast on Monday evening and was taken to the city's Royal Victoria Hospital where he died. His wife and two daughters were at his bedside. The brilliant Ulsterman's father-in-law, the former SDLP leader Lord Fitt, is being treated in the same

hospital for a suspected heart attack. It is believed Lord Fitt, 71, suffered chest pains while visiting Mr Hanna on Monday night and was said to be in a "comfortable" condition.

Mr Hanna had pursued a gruelling schedule during the General Election working for the BBC and Channel 4 and had recently been working on several different projects.

In the week before his death he had been presenting shows both day and night - *Talk Back*, a daily show for BBC Radio Ulster, and Radio 5 Live's *After Hours* pro-

gramme which runs from midnight until 2am. He was also writing a book about Manchester United's so-called "Busby Babes".

A veteran of *Newsnight*, *Panorama*, *A Week in Politics*, and Radio 4's *Medium Wave*, he was described as one of the most incisive political journalists of his time.

Downing Street said Tony Blair was saddened to hear of Mr Hanna's death. Lord Parkinson, the Tory Party Chairman, said: "He was one of the great characters in the broadcasting world, a consummate

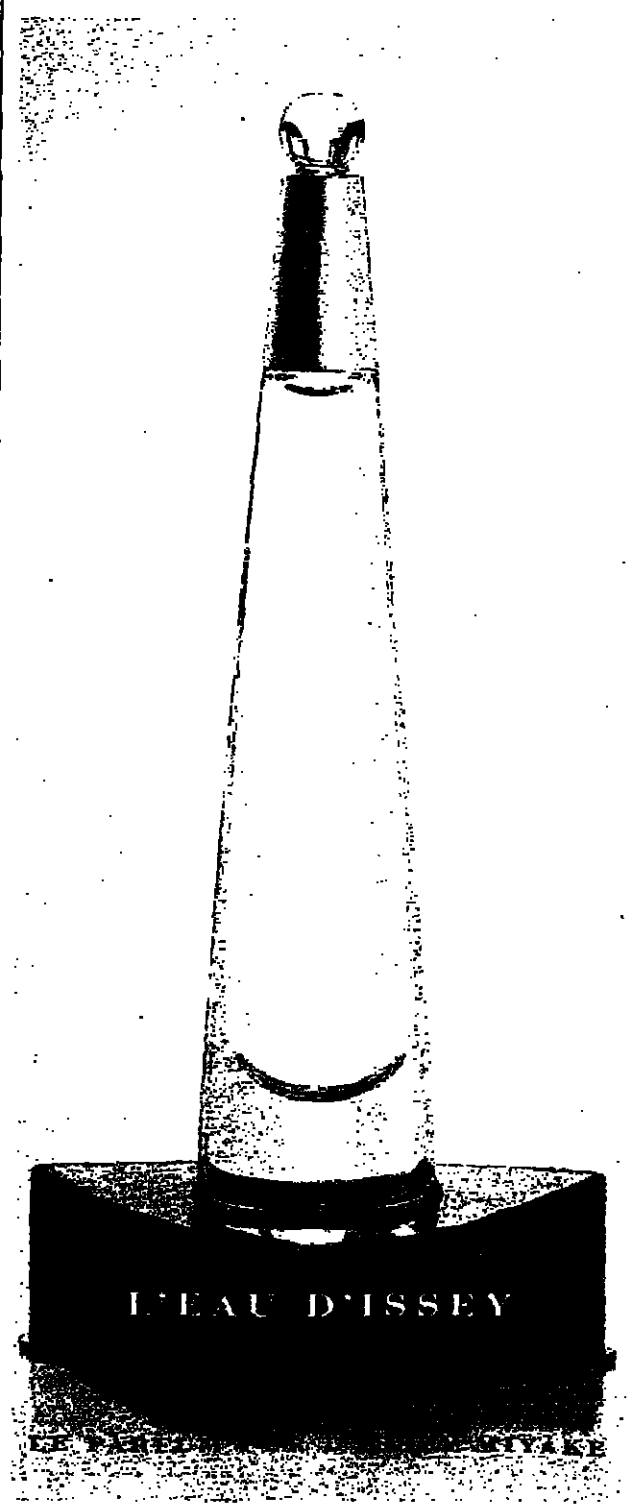
professional." A huge figure, Mr Hanna often intimidated politicians. He believed the only professional attitude a politician should have towards a politician was "that of a dog towards a lamp-post".

Mr Hanna also had strong links with trade unions and was the man behind the 24-hour walk-out of BBC journalists in 1985 over the shelving of the documentary film about Martin McGuinness, the Sinn Féin strategist.



Hanna: had ability to intimidate politicians

Obituary, page 21



Welsh wails greet a less-than-immaculate conception

Yesterday, Ron Davies, the Welsh Secretary, began a White Paper, which will lead to a referendum, which should lead to a Bill, which becomes an Act, which would set up a Welsh Assembly. Mr Davies shared the moment with the Commons. If not the birth of the Welsh Assembly, this was the conception.

As conceptions go it was an oddly passionless affair. The foreplay had been ill-tempered, with accusation and counter-accusation flying be-

tween Welsh Labour MPs, concerning the claim by Llew Smith (Lab, Blaenau Gwent) that Mr Davies had tried to bully him. Mr Smith was there yesterday, to irritate and distract Davies again.

As conceptions go it was a quick and furtive affair, too. Davies looked shifty and sounded as though his heart was not in it. His Statement was a flimsy document. It began — a roll on the kettle drums — with a scattering of abstract nouns about reform, openness and devolution, "a

new kind of politics, based on the principles of partnership, democracy and inclusiveness". It continued with some strangely random remarks about secondary legislation and Europe, and a weird-sounding part-first-past-the-post, part-PR Assembly.

Davies's strange courtship with Welsh democracy then proceeded to a projected "economic power-house". This turned out to be a new super-quango, "too urgent to await" the Assembly — as though Mr Davies's attention had started

to wander during the conception, to other matters. And it ended in anti-climactic style, with nothing very much. An unspoken feeling of "was that it, then?" hung in the air.

Then Welsh Labour MPs started to attack their Secretary of State. First on his feet was Ted Rowlands (Merthyr Tydfil & Rhymney), a former

minister. Mr Rowlands's first word was "sadly". Sadly, Davies had failed to sweep away quangos. Next came Alan Williams (Swansea W) who said the whole thing sounded like "a mystery tour". Mr Davies agreed that his plans were indeed "an evolving concept".

Ann Cloyd (Cynon Valley)

reminded Davies that (unlike him) she had supported devolution the first time round, and said she would have preferred a proper parliament, but would support this in the hope that it might lead there "eventually". Davies thanked her. Allan Rogers (Rhondda) said that "these proposals don't relieve my fears". Sir Ray Powell (Ogmore) said he could not support them. Alan Williams (Carmarthen E & Dinefwr) said this was not proper democratisation.

Then Llew Smith aimed

another gingerly kick at Mr Davies's bruised shin. The aim, he thought, was to abolish quangos. "You don't need an expensive Welsh Assembly" to do that.

A Scottish Labour MP, Tam Dalyell (Linlithgow) was sceptical about the Assembly's claimed new role in Europe. Barry Jones (Alyn & Deeside) and John Marek (Wrexham) were concerned that a South Wales majority in any Assembly might "sabotage" (in Dr Marek's words) the needs of North Wales, where (said Mr

Jones) "Cardiff is a long way away." The Government benches had been thinly attended, some 45 being present. Madam Speaker called everyone who wanted to speak. Less than half did so. About half of these were openly sceptical or downright hostile. Seven offered unqualified approval. A couple offered grudging support. The rest simply sat on their hands.

A very strange conception. If the episode showed nothing else, it showed that Wales is another country.



MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

Ministry to name tested food products

THE Ministry of Agriculture is to divulge the brand names of foodstuffs tested for safety and nutritional quality by Government scientists (Michael Hornsby writes).

The ministry has always refused to name names on the grounds that it would jeopardise commercial confidentiality and discourage food companies from co-operating in surveys.

Jeff Rooker, the Food Safety Minister, said: "We are committed to giving consumers the best possible deal. It is only right that we announce the brand names of foods that have been tested and show the results on a product-by-product basis. We will make every effort to ensure that our tests are scrupulously fair and do not favour one manufacturer over another."

Tim Lang, Professor of Food Policy at Thames Valley University, said: "This is very good news. It will do much to restore the credibility of the ministry in the eyes of consumers."

The Food and Drink Federation, representing the food and drink industry, said that naming names could give the public "a potentially misleading impression" particularly when only some of the brands available were sampled and no comment was made on the others.

Watchdog finds errors in 85% of CSA cases

By POLLY NEWTON, POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Child Support Agency was embroiled in fresh controversy last night when it was disclosed that more than eight out of ten cases it handles contain mistakes.

The National Audit Office, took the unusual step of refusing to accept the CSA's accounts after its investigators found errors in 85 per cent of cases, a large proportion relating to the maintenance payments of absent parents. In one out of every six the mistake exceeded £1,000.

Investigators found that, although the CSA was improving accuracy in new cases, it was making no attempt to eliminate errors in existing accounts. The agency said it did not have the resources to review its full caseload. It will have to resubmit its accounts next year but, according to agency sources, it is unlikely to be able to satisfy the National Audit Office.

Sir John Bourn, head of the NAO, said that the agency's performance in its early years had left "a legacy of error". The NAO survey indicated 39 per cent of receipts from absent parents were for the wrong amount, mainly because of mistakes made by the agency in its assessments.

Sir John estimated that overpayments, in 1996-97 amounted to £3.8 million, some 1.8 per cent of the

£215 million collected. Underpayments amounted to £9.4 million, some 4.4 per cent of the sum collected.

There was also "a material level of error" in the amounts the agency claimed were owed by absent parents, amounting to £48 million in over-statements and £91 million in under-statements. The assessment came on the day that the agency published its own annual report, in which it claimed that its work had led to the payment of almost £400 million in child maintenance in 1996-97 — up 33 per cent on the previous year. The agency claimed that 37 per cent of cases checked in March this year were "correct to the last penny".

Although the NAO has carried out previous reports into the operation of the CSA, today's report is the first to examine maintenance payments collected by the agency. Some 74 per cent of assessments made by the agency in 1996-97 were accurate, the NAO said.

But the survey found that in previous years the level of accuracy was much lower — 63 per cent in 1995-96 and only around 50 per cent in the agency's first two years 1993-94 and 1994-95. The agency was set up in 1993.

Sir John warned of further pressures facing the agency, which expects its workload to grow by 60 per cent by 2000 but will be required to contribute towards cuts in the running of the social security system.

A spokesman for the agency stressed that the mistakes identified by the NAO were mainly dated from the first two years of its operation. Its record of accuracy in assessing maintenance payments had improved markedly over the past year. "We accept we've got a long way to go, but we are showing an improvement in our performance and our accuracy in the current new applications for maintenance," he said. But he admitted it would take some time to put right the mistakes made in assessing maintenance payments in the past.

In its report the agency also said it had tracked almost 67,000 absent parents whose whereabouts had been unknown. Moreover, some 98 per cent of maintenance payments were passed to parents caring for children within ten days of receipt, higher than the Government target of 95 per cent.

Faith Boardman, chief executive of the CSA, welcomed the report: "Steady and sustained progress has been made. Four out of the five key targets set by the Secretary of State have been met."



Alex Bennett at Buckingham Palace yesterday

Swimmer's solace

ALEX BENNETT, the champion swimmer who broke her legs in a car crash five months before the Atlanta Olympics, competing in the 800 metres freestyle at Crystal Palace, Miss Bennett, 20, from Nottingham, said yesterday: "I'm recovering but it's going to be a long haul. My sights are set on the Sydney Olympics."

knees. Miss Bennett reached her first national championship final since the accident, competing in the 800 metres freestyle at Crystal Palace. Miss Bennett, 20, from Nottingham, said yesterday: "I'm recovering but it's going to be a long haul. My sights are set on the Sydney Olympics."

Unionists to vote against gun plan

By MARTIN FLETCHER AND PHILIP WEBSTER

THE Ulster Unionist Party is expected to vote against the Anglo-Irish plan for decommissioning terrorist weapons, leaving the Northern Ireland peace process in the balance.

"We will vote against," a UUP official said last night. "We are not prepared to enter negotiations with an IRA organisation armed to the teeth and which, on the basis of government proposals, will not have to decommission a single bullet."

Downing Street said the process could yet be salvaged and that full-scale peace negotiations would still begin at Stormont as scheduled on September 15. The UUP does not intend to walk away from the talks and Downing Street evidently hopes that Unionist attitudes will soften in the intervening weeks.

The Government will press ahead with plans to set up an independent body that will draft detailed proposals for decommissioning. If the plan is defeated there are still "a lot of other options" to consider over the summer, Mr Mowlem, the Northern Ireland Secretary, said.

The plan calls for decommissioning in the course of negotiations but does not set the timetable for IRA disarmament that most Unionists are demanding. Sinn Féin officials have said that they do not expect a single IRA bullet to be decommissioned until the negotiations have ended.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hague has £200 price on his head

Newspapers were told yesterday they must pay £200 to print a new "official" photograph of William Hague, the party leader. Central Office said it had not been told that the agency representing the photographer would charge a fee. The Tories eventually released the photograph through the Press Association, risking the wrath of Camera Press and Graham Piggott, the photographer. The agency may make some money today from the release of a new official photograph of Tony Blair by Lord Snowdon, who is also on its books. Downing Street said that Mr Blair's office had no objection to the £200 fee.

Tribute to Major

Members of John Major's last Cabinet will tonight gather at a central London hotel for a dinner in honour of the former Prime Minister. The event has been organised by Michael Heseltine, the former Deputy Prime Minister, who is expected to lead the speeches. Another former Conservative minister said: "I think there is tremendous warmth of feeling and affection towards John for all that he has done. It will be quite emotional."

Trains criticised

South West Trains was criticised by rail campaigners for refusing to replace outdated train carriages despite an 176 per cent increase in profits by Stagecoach, its parent company, to £120.5 million. However, the train company, which runs London commuter services, said that there would be no increased investment to replace the controversial "slam-door" carriages unless its seven-year franchise is extended.

Sailor rescued

Peter Westlake, 45, from Derby, was rescued after lying unconscious for three days as his boat drifted across the North Sea. He set off a week ago in his 22ft fibre-glass yacht from Boston, Lincolnshire, heading for Kent, but collapsed off the Thames estuary. He regained consciousness only as a Dutch lifeboat approached off Rotterdam on Friday. Mr Westlake was taken to hospital with severe sunburn, but is now sailing back to Britain.

Heavy fine

Elaine Smith, who had 300 paying members in three slimming clubs she ran, was found guilty yesterday at Dudley Magistrates' Court of seven offences under the Trading Standards Act. Smith, 52, of Stourbridge, West Midlands, denied the charges but was fined £7,000 with £4,436.10 costs. An undercover trading standards officer discovered that Smith had been falsely telling slimmers that they were losing weight.

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BUSINESS JUST GOT AN EDGE.



Surname Hague to warn of Tory 'delusion'

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

A STARK analysis of the Conservative Party's plight will be delivered by William Hague today as he announces plans to submit himself and his modernisation proposals to a ballot of members in the autumn.

The Conservative leader will tell an audience of MPs, peers and party workers that the party must cast aside "self-delusion" as it fights back from its worst electoral performance this century.

He will tell them that they lost the election because they were seen as divided, out of touch with their natural supporters, arrogant and conceited, and because people questioned their motives and sometimes their competence.

Mr Hague is to set out the principles behind what aides say will be the most radical shake-up of the party since Disraeli. He will also say that he wants more women and members of the ethnic minorities to join the party.

Many of the changes relating to membership and the party's constitution, including selection of the party leader

and candidates, will take several months to push through. It is already clear, however, that Mr Hague is intent on introducing the "one member, one vote" principle to elements of the party's affairs. Leadership elections will no longer be conducted solely by Tory MPs. Instead there will be an electoral college with party members getting up to 40 per cent of the vote.

The ballot in September will enable members to endorse Mr Hague and his reform plans. In the future he wants to introduce a computerised membership scheme which will make such ballots easier to conduct. On this occasion constituency associations will distribute and collect the 300,000 ballot papers.

Mr Hague's aides said that he would be "frank and blunt" today in his assessment of the party's standing. He plans to say: "We have to understand without any trace of self-delusion that the electorate, even though they felt better off and still embraced our ideas, nonetheless wanted to be rid of us."

Brown threatens to upstage No 10 bash

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

GORDON BROWN is in danger of upstaging Tony Blair's showbusiness reception next Wednesday at 10 Downing Street. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has decided to throw his own party at No 11, the previous night, for the film industry and many stars are on both guest lists.

The key difference is that Mr Brown is said to be paying for his bash while Mr Blair is using the Downing Street entertainment budget. Both are promising wine rather than champagne with modest "canapés or snacks".

Mr Brown, the Chancellor, and Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, are co-hosting the reception at No 11 to celebrate

the Budget announcement of tax breaks for the film industry. Their guest list includes Sir David Puttnam, Lord Attenborough, Anthony Minghella, director of *The English Patient*, and Mike Newell, director of *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, most of whom have also been invited by Mr Blair.

The Chancellor is rapidly shedding his taciturn image and has already proved a lively and lavish host at a number of soirees.

Mr Blair's bash will, however, be rather larger. As well as film and theatre names, the Prime Minister has invited artists, musicians, business people and health and education chiefs.

Amended Index Linked Account Rates

Effective from 22nd July 1997. Accounts no longer open to new investors.

	Index Linked Account			
	Minimum Investment	Gross	Net	Net
1st Issue Quarterly	£1,000	5.90%	6.03%	4.72%
2nd Issue Yearly	£1,000	5.90%	-	4.72%
2nd Issue Monthly	£1,000	5.75%	5.90%	4.60%
3rd Issue Yearly	£1,000	5.90%	-	4.72%
3rd Issue Monthly	£1,000	5.75%	5.90%	4.60%
4th Issue Yearly	£1,000	5.40%	-	4.32%
4th Issue Monthly	£1,000	5.27%	5.40%	4.22%

*Without UK income tax deducted. **Annual return if monthly interest payments received in the account. Treasurers' rates of income tax at 20%. Interest will be payable net of the applicable rate of income tax which may be reduced by non-taxpayers or gross subject to the relevant regulations. CAN and net rates are illustrative only and have been rounded to two decimal places. Rates may vary but are correct at the time of going to press. Details of interest rates paid on other accounts are available from any Britannia branch.

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Woman hunted after priest is shot dead

FROM PHILIP PANGALOS
IN ATHENS
AND JOANNA BALE

A GREEK Orthodox clergyman based in London was shot dead by a woman yesterday while visiting Athens.

The Very Rev Archimandrite Anthimos Eleftheriades, 59, was killed as he walked to his Range Rover outside his flat in the suburb of Nea Smyrni. He was on a month's holiday from St Nicholas's Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Shepherd's Bush, west London.

A woman dressed in black and wearing sunglasses pulled a gun from her handbag and shot him in the back before firing four more bullets into his body. She then escaped in a car.

Witnesses said that a woman had been waiting outside the flat for some time yesterday morning and had been approached to see if she had a problem with her car.

Greek police said there was no known motive for the killing. They were seeking Kati Yarnakopoulou, 42, who is married and has a 17-year-old son. Her husband was being questioned last night. It is understood that the woman's family has a wood-carvings business that exports to London.

The position of archimandrite is lower than an archbishop but higher than a priest and demands celibacy. A spokesman at St Nicholas's Cathedral, which draws a congregation from across west London, said yesterday: "We are all very shocked and have no idea why this has happened. He was a true Christian and a true patriot. He loved his country and he loved his church."

The telephone has not stopped ringing with members of the congregation who have heard about his death on London Greek Radio.

The archimandrite, originally from Cyprus, had been in London for four years after spending 20 years in Athens, where he has a brother. His sister, who lives in London, was too upset to comment.

A spokesman for the archdiocese said: "It was his second spell of service in this country. He was a well-known member of the clergy who organised religious broadcasts every Monday for London Greek Radio. We know of no personal problems or any reason why this should happen."

A London Greek Radio producer, who worked with the dead man, said: "His killer was apparently Greek-speaking and was hanging around for some time. He goes to Greece to visit friends every summer."

"I worked with him on his religious broadcasts for a couple of years and he was a very kind and clever man."



The archimandrite was on an annual trip to Athens.



Hole the butler: when the Prices were away, he played

Servant from downstairs who took over upstairs

By TIM JONES

WHILE the millionaire chairman of a hotel chain and his wife were at home in London their butler behaved impeccably, keeping their substantial town house in Belgravia and acting as chauffeur.

However, when Rodney Price and his wife Loen were away in Australia, Percival Hole turned into the master of the house, hiring his own butler and cook to impress the friends he invited back from the pub for dinners of saddle of wild boar with £1,500 bottles of Chateau Petrus.

Yesterday Hole, 49, of Salford, Greater Manchester, was told by an Old Bailey judge that he faces jail after admitting taking the couple's £39,000 Bentley Turbo with personalised number plates, and £3,500 cash from the safe.

Hole was hired by Mr Price, chairman of the Thistle Group of Hotels, in 1995 to work at his home in Chester Street, off Belgrave Square, the court was told. Mr Price had no idea Hole had been cashiered from the Army Catering Corps and previously jailed for dishonesty. Martyn Bowyer, for the prosecution, said.

Known as John to the Prices, he was paid £1,800 a month, with free accommodation and meals. He also occasionally acted as chauffeur and had access to the family cars, including the green Bentley.

"In a household such as the Prices, where there was a considerable degree of entertaining, and one or both were away on business for periods, enormous responsibility and trust was invested in their

Tim Jones reports on chauffeur who sold the Bentley and emptied the safe when his employers went abroad



Loeen Price and the family home in Belgravia where Hole gave guided tours

BUTLER IN THE DOCK: 1

butler," Mr Bowyer said. "He was given control of running the household and some control of the accounts."

Hole was even given a Courts Bank Switch card for household expenses.

He became a regular at the nearby Nag's Head pub where he was known as a bon

viveur, Mr Bowyer said. He always paid for the first round of drinks, but arrived and left alone. He gave the impression he had substantial means and never gave away that he was



The Nag's Head pub where Hole was a regular

employed as a butler, he said. While the Prices were away in 1995, Hole entertained regulars from the pub to a lavish meal and fine wines at his master's home, the court was told. He hired a butler and cook for the occasion and gave the impression the house was his. He would give friends guided tours of the house, pretending portraits were his ancestors.

One of those he befriended, property dealer Eamonn O'Higgins, recalled: "He told us Chester Street was his mother's house but she was always away. I do feel sorry for him in a way because he was living a totally phoney life. He carried it off terribly well and none of us had any reason to disbelieve him."

When the Prices left for Australia last year Hole persuaded Mrs Price to leave the registration book for the Bent-

ley and changed the ownership to himself. He then sold it to an unsuspecting car dealer and went missing with the £56,000 proceeds. "When Mr Price came back from Australia, he discovered not only his butler had disappeared, but his Bentley was missing, together with £3,500 from the family safe," Mr Bowyer said. Hole claimed that he intended to invest the money in a timber business in Estonia and, as he did not like flying, he and an innocent associate took a train across Europe. However, once in Frankfurt he started spending money on champagne, cocaine and prostitutes, male as well as female. "He was still living the high life," Judge David Elfer QC, commented.

Hole later developed hepatitis and had to return to Britain. He told police he had no money left. "He said if he had, did they think he would be in Manchester — which he disparagingly described as 'the arsehole of the world'?" Mr Bowyer said.

His former employers watched in court as Hole admitted stealing the Bentley and taking £3,500 from the family safe but denied charges of stealing two paintings. He is due to be sentenced in September when an inquiry into his remaining assets should be complete.

His counsel, Owen Davies, said Hole wanted it known that he had not acted out of a grudge against his employers. "Quite the contrary. He does feel a very great deal of remorse towards them and the unwelcome publicity. He knows he will inevitably face a prison sentence."

Employer, 97, 'was humiliated'

By A STAFF REPORTER

Vengeance after his wife was forced to have an abortion drove Dennis Tyler to indecent assault, a court is told

A BUTLER indecently assaulted his elderly employer and threatened to throw her ashes on the rhubarb patch on her 3,500-acre estate, a court was told yesterday.

Dennis Tyler, 63, of Market Harborough, Leicestershire, came to hate Cicely Lancaster, who employed him for 18 years as butler at Kelmars Hall, Northamptonshire. Northampton Crown Court was told.

Miss Lancaster, who has since died, was 97 at the time of the alleged assaults two years ago. William Harbage, for the prosecution, said: "This is a case not of what the butler saw but what the butler did."

Miss Lancaster was then a shadow of her formidable former self, incontinent, in need of constant care and suffering from senile dementia. She had inherited her family's home from her brother, the late Colonel Claude Lancaster, who died in 1977.

Mr Tyler's alleged campaign of humiliation began after he asked Miss Lancaster what would happen if his wife, Dianne, the housekeeper, became pregnant. "He told the police that Miss Lancaster's reaction was quite sharp," Mr Harbage said.

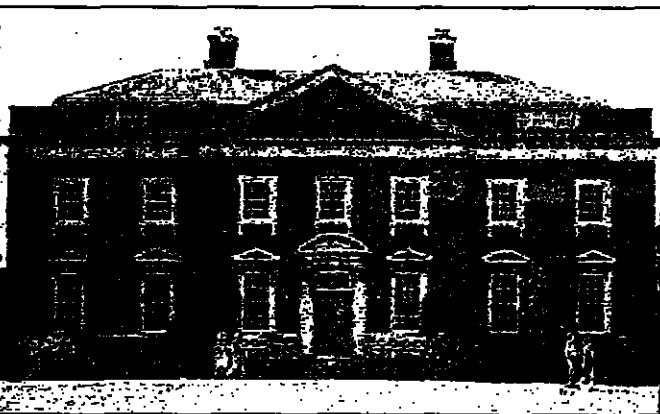
Miss Lancaster, who was unaware that Mrs Tyler, now 37, was pregnant, had said she would not tolerate children at the hall. "You would be out on your necks," she had added.

Mr Harbage said: "It is clear that because of what Miss Lancaster had said that Mrs Tyler had an abortion."

"This was a very important event. It is very much the motive behind the defendant's subsequent conduct. It is clear he felt a deep-rooted grudge and blamed her for the abortion. As a result he undertook a campaign of vengeance



Cicely Lancaster, who inherited Kelmars Hall from her brother in 1977



against her designed to degrade and humiliate her."

The alleged campaign included making Miss Lancaster live in degrading conditions, serving her meagre rations while the Tylers lived in "fine style" and dressing her in lewd terms, Mr Harbage said. He had also taunted her about the abortion. "He called her a child murderer, who would burn in hell for 500 years. He said that after her death, half her ashes would be thrown on the rhubarb patch and he would flush the other half down the lavatory."

The campaign was said to have culminated in five indecent assaults on Miss Lancaster. "They were done partly out of sexual gratification, but mainly in order to degrade and humiliate her further," Mr Harbage said.

On one occasion, Miss Lancaster had been sitting on a sofa in nothing but her pants when Mr Tyler had sat next to her, put his hands on her breasts and said: "These milk bottles, madam, used to be

full. Now they are empty." On another occasion Mr Tyler was said to have put his hands on Miss Lancaster's breasts.

Mr Harbage said: "Miss Lancaster tried to cover herself and was obviously distressed at what had happened." He added that that Miss Lancaster's life "must have been made a misery".

Mr Harbage said that the accused had also put his

BUTLER IN THE DOCK: 2

hands under Miss Lancaster's clothing and stroked her thighs, and that he had indecently assaulted her when she was in Kettering General Hospital recovering from a broken hip after a fall.

Mr Tyler was arrested in December 1995 after three care assistants came forward as witnesses. They had not reported the incidents straight away as they were "frightened" by Mr Tyler.

Initially Mr Tyler, who earned £135 a week with a live-

in flat, denied the allegations but told police that he had a "love-hate" relationship with Miss Lancaster, whom he described as "domineering, evil and aggressive". Mr Harbage told the court.

In a second interview, he had made partial admissions, saying he had touched Miss Lancaster's breasts "in jest".

During a third interview, he had made further admissions, saying that touching her breasts was "sort of like getting my own back". Mr Harbage told the court. Mr Tyler, who has been in service all his life, was sitting in the dock dressed in a pinstripe suit. He denies three counts of indecent assault.

Cynthia Wright, estates manager at Kelmars Hall, told the jury that Mr Tyler was a "dictator" who "ruled" Kelmars Hall. She raised her concerns about his alleged behaviour with Miss Lancaster's solicitor, but when he came from London Miss Lancaster said she did not want Mr Tyler sacked.

The trial continues.



Dennis Tyler leaving court yesterday

Cleared professor could face civil action

By KATHRYN KNIGHT

A PHILOSOPHY professor was yesterday told he could face a civil action from two female students the day after he was cleared by a jury of indecently assaulting them in his room.

Yesterday the mother of Miss Y. 24, one of two girls who claimed John Cottingham had tried to kiss and fondle them after a garden party, disclosed that the family had already consulted a barrister about suing him and were prepared to remortgage their house to fund the action.

Speaking from their Wiltshire home, Mrs Y said the family did not consider the case closed. She said: "A civil action is very much a possibility. We have already spoken to counsel who said we had a strong case."

The news came as a fresh blow to Professor Cottingham, 54, and his family, who spent Monday night celebrating his acquittal in a Chinese restaurant near their home in Upper Basildon, Berkshire. Yesterday the professor, head of philosophy at Reading University, said he preferred not to comment on the prospect of a civil action but reinforced his anger that his name and reputation had been open to attack while his two female accusers were able to claim anonymity.

"Everyone who has heard these allegations felt that they were intrinsically highly implausible and I think the question does have to be asked about why the Crown Prosecution Service saw fit to bring the case," he said.

Leading article, page 19

YOU COULD BE A £5 MILLION
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Judge's son the sixth to drown during hot spell

SIX people have drowned after being tempted into the water by the hot spell.

Charles Rooke, 7, the son of a crown court judge, died in a neighbour's swimming pool. He was the fourth child victim to be named by police yesterday.

Safety officials urged parents to stop their children from swimming at a pool or beach without lifeguards.

It is understood that the son of Judge Giles Rooke, QC, was discovered floating face down in the pool in the village of Bridge in Kent on Monday. He had been playing with several other children during a swim supervised by adults.

Also on Monday two eight-year-old girls, Charles Fox and Jasmine Neville, drowned after going missing on a family picnic on the banks of the Wharfe near Otley, west Yorkshire. A father-of-two, Russell Hardacre, 31, of Bradford, drowned in the same river the day before after diving in to cool off. His body was found three hours after his father raised the alarm.

John MacDonald, 14, from Glasgow, died on Monday after getting into difficulties in the River Leven in Balloch. On the same day a man

Safety officials warn parents as boy, 7, dies swimming in neighbour's pool

drowned during an evening swim in the River Dee, near Potarch Bridge in Grampian. Colin Clark, 24, of Drumoak, was swimming with friends when he got into difficulties.

Judge Rooke was told about his son's death after hearing the first day of evidence in a drugs trial at Canterbury Crown Court. The case has been postponed.

He said yesterday: "It was a million to one chance. I do not blame anybody. I am not sure if Charles had been swimming in the pool before. But it was just an ordinary thing for him to do. He was our youngest child and he was a dear child."

"He was a good swimmer and he had been swimming since a very early age."

"I do not hold the owners of the pool responsible in any way. Charles was a lovely lad

and we will miss him terribly." The couple who own the house where Charles died are both GPs. Judge Rooke said: "They did all they could to save him."

Charles had been taken to Kent and Canterbury Hospital but failed to regain consciousness. Kent police said: "A post-mortem examination revealed the child had died from immersion. There are no suspicious circumstances."

Judge Rooke and his wife Anna have three other sons and a daughter: Alexander, 28, Nicholas, 27, Elizabeth, 25, and George, 18.

John Howard, director of safety for the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, urged would-be swimmers to be cautious in the current weather. "Even places that have traditionally been used for swimming can be dangerous. River conditions can change overnight."

"Hidden hazards such as the extreme cold, currents, weeds and rubbish can mean even strong swimmers getting into difficulties."

RSPA said 143 people drowned in rivers and streams and 69 in lakes and reservoirs last year in Britain and Northern Ireland.



Charles Rooke, 7, who was discovered floating face down in a swimming pool

Scottish surfer killed by Great White shark in South Africa

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG AND SHIRLEY ENGLISH

A YOUNG surfer was killed by a Great White shark 200 yards off the Transkei Wild Coast in South Africa yesterday as friends watched from the shore. Mark Penches, 25, whose family originate from Glasgow, was dragged under-water after diving into the sea at Breezy Point. His dismembered body was later washed ashore.

Last night his parents Tony and Irene, his brother Ian, 17, and sister Simone, 22, were comforting each other at their home in Sydney, Australia. His father moved there from Scotland 32 years ago.

Mr Penches, 55, said: "Mark had everything to live for. Apparently the beach where he was killed is one of the best surfing spots in the world and he didn't want to miss the chance to surf there. He absolutely loved surfing."

"We're all just numb. We can't believe it. We always feared something like this might happen and now it has. But he died doing something he loved," he added.

His son was returning to Australia after visiting relatives in Scotland in March as part of a six-month world tour taking in top surfing spots. He had been hiking in Nepal and surfing in Indonesia, Portugal and Greece.

On his way back to Australia he had called his family to say he wanted to stop off in South Africa and once there he had met up with other surfers. The group had travelled to Breezy Point, a remote beach on Transkei's Wild Coast, where they had surfed all morning without incident.

Mr Penches said police told him that the group had gone to get some lunch before returning to Breezy Point later in the day. "Mark appears to have dived in while the others waxed their boards. They were going to join him



Mark Penches: attacked 200 yards from shore

in about five minutes. Then suddenly Mark just disappeared. It was only a couple of hundred yards offshore. A few moments later his arm washed ashore.

"It could have been any of them. It was just tragic bad luck that it was Mark. We are just devastated. Obviously surfers know they are taking chances and Mark realised that too. He was very careful, but he always knew there was a risk," he said.

It is believed to be the fourth shark attack at Breezy Point in recent years. The last happened on the Eastern Cape coast in July 1994 when a Great White killed a 22-year-old surfer near East London and bit another surfer. In February 1995 a 21-year-old man was nearly killed in an attack by a ragged tooth shark in the same area.

Yesterday surfing experts insisted the killing was an isolated incident. There are estimated to be about 50,000 surfers in South Africa and each year thousands of surfing backpackers, many of them Australian, flock to the country's beaches.

"It's still more dangerous to drive in your car to the shops," said Craig Sims, editor of Durban's ZigZag surfing magazine.

Girls died during birthday picnic on riverbank

BY PAUL WILKINSON



Charlea Fox

TWO girls who drowned while swimming in a river were on a birthday outing, their families said yesterday.

Charlea Fox had celebrated her eighth birthday with her schoolfriend Jasmine Neville, also eight, by spending Monday picnicking by the water. Police believe that either an undercurrent in the deceptively placid water swept the girls away from the sandy bank where they were playing, or that they were overcome by its coldness. The woman looking after them had by chance

been distracted at that moment. By the time she looked back the children had vanished.

Yesterday police said that the woman was so dreadfully upset by what had happened that they had not been able to interview her. Superintendent Jeffrey Oliver last night warned children to keep away from deep waters. "It might be hot and the water look tempting but in this part of the world it will still be bitterly cold and catch them completely unawares. The shock of the water is quite enough to render them totally helpless,

no matter how good a swimmer they might be."

The drowned children were found by police divers in deep water soon after 10pm, three hours after they disappeared on the River Wharfe near Otley in west Yorkshire, yards from where they were last seen alive.

John Eyres, deputy head of St Matthias Primary School in Leeds, which the girls attended, said: "They were delightful little girls: outgoing, energetic children. They contributed hugely to the life of the school."

The girls and a nine-year-

old boy had been among a party, including Charles's parents and three other adults, from Leeds, at a point in the river at Arthington where a sharp bend has created a small beach. After Mr and Mrs Fox and two other adults went home, the children asked to stay a little longer and the boy's mother agreed to stay with them.

But the approach of two youths, about whom she was concerned, momentarily distracted her. When the girls disappeared, she ran half a mile to raise the alarm, and a police search began.



Jasmine Neville

Say 'Howdy' to the Landcruiser Colorado. A 4WD that's equally at home fording the river that bears its name, as it is crossing the Thames more conventionally. To take the rough smoothly, the so-called 'basic' model, the GS, boasts twin airbags and 4 speaker stereo. While the 5 door GX comes with alloy wheels, ABS, and eight, yes eight, seats. (It also has air-conditioning, so you'll always have a nice day.) But don't assume the Landcruiser's gone soft. In particularly inhospitable tracts of Australia's Northern Territories all vehicles are banned, bar Landcruisers. The Colorado's most welcome. For more information call 0800 777 555.

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Women less likely to become bankrupt

The pain and joy of head-banging

sea view

السنة الأولى

Surgeon right to refuse teenager a liver transplant

A SURGEON who denied a liver transplant to a teenager who had taken the drug Ecstasy was right to do so, a sheriff ruled yesterday.

But doctors in Aberdeen's Royal Infirmary who failed to carry out crucial blood tests on the girl have been severely criticised. Their negligence could have cost Michelle Paul, 15, her life.

The decision by Hilary Sanfey, the consultant surgeon in charge of Michelle's case at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh's liver transplant unit, where Michelle had been transferred, not to carry out a transplant was made on medical grounds. Sheriff Graeme Warner ruled yesterday. Michelle's mother, Carolann Paul, 37, and her grandmother Margaret Pirie, 56, had believed that the decision was based on moral grounds, based on Mrs Paul's history of drug abuse and the fact that Michelle had taken drugs.

The report by Sheriff Warner, published yesterday, after a fatal accident inquiry in Aberdeen, calls for the organ transplant system to be reorganised. He wants to see a code of practice adopted, with relatives of those denied transplants given the reasons in writing and a forum set up within the medical profession, possibly including lay members, to discuss the selection of patients for organ transplant.

Michelle, from Aberdeen, died in November 1995, more than three weeks after experi-

An inquiry found that the decision over a girl who had taken Ecstasy

was sound, says Gillian Bowditch

menting with half an Ecstasy tablet. She was denied a liver transplant by Dr Sanfey, 45, and a team of doctors at the liver transplant unit.

Mrs Paul and her mother had been "simply wrong" about the reasons for the decision, Sheriff Warner said in his report. He praised the professionalism of Dr Sanfey and her colleague Niall Finlayson.

"I would stress that I in no way think that Mrs Paul was deliberately lying about this but I think it does show very clearly indeed just how much memory can distort recollections in such extremely adverse circumstances," Sheriff Warner said.

"For Mrs Paul and her mother, this was perhaps the greatest emotional upset that they will ever experience in their whole lives, whereas for the professionals involved in the Edinburgh team it was just another day at the office." "While accepting that it is at least within the bounds of pos-

sibility that the words 'moral grounds' were used by Dr Finlayson, I in no way accept the evidence of Mrs Paul that they were given as the reason for the team's decision."

Michelle was initially admitted to Aberdeen Royal Infirmary with suspected hepatitis but transferred to the Edinburgh unit when her condition deteriorated and it became obvious that she was suffering from liver failure. The medical team at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, which failed to take crucial liver function tests, was severely criticised by Sheriff Warner.

"I have grave concern at the failure of the Aberdeen team either to take, or on the part of the more senior staff, to notice the omission to take the test. This is a crucial reading necessary in every case of liver failure, and all the witnesses seemed unanimous in this. There will inevitably be a feeling in many quarters that it might have saved the life of the deceased," he said.

Sheriff Warner accused the Aberdeen doctors of looking at Michelle's family background and concluding — "this is just a druggie, so her weird behaviour must be due to drugs".

The failures in Aberdeen meant that by the time Michelle arrived in Edinburgh there was very little that could be done for her. Nevertheless, the care given to Michelle in Edinburgh was worthy of "special commendation", Sheriff Warner said.



Hilary Sanfey, who has campaigned for more people to become organ donors

High-flyer who sacrificed her personal life

By Gillian Bowditch
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE SURGEON

HILARY SANFEY, whose medical team were exonerated and praised for their professionalism by Sheriff Warner's report, is a high-flyer who colleagues regard as "a tough cookie".

During the fatal accident inquiry, she was portrayed by Michelle Paul's family as a hard-hearted, unfeeling doctor. A consultant psychiatrist who tried to persuade her to change her mind over Michelle's case, spoke of a "very frosty" meeting at which Dr Sanfey said she would not "waste a liver".

Sheriff Warner yesterday praised her "immense professionalism" in the face of a bitter and hostile emotional attack. Colleagues say she has broken through the glass ceiling and entered the male-dominated world of transplant surgery.

In 1991 all 157 consultant general surgeons in Scotland were male but by 1995 Dr Sanfey was performing half the liver transplants in Scotland. She was part of the team that carried out the first liver transplant in Scotland in November 1992 two weeks after the £1.3 million transplant unit at Edinburgh Royal Infirmary opened.

She has a reputation for doing rather than talking, and colleagues say she has made sacrifices in her personal life. Since graduating from Trinity College, Dublin, in 1976 she has moved house 26 times to pursue her career and has worked in the United States,

Spain, London and Ireland. Dr Sanfey has a reputation for hard work and not suffering fools gladly. After graduating she worked at Sir Patrick Duns Hospital in Dublin but medical rounds and discussions on patient care did not suit her. "Far better to be a surgeon and be able to get in and do something to help the patient rather than just talk about it," she later wrote.

In 1981, she started a three-year spell at Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore returning to Guy's Hospital, London. In 1986, she became a member of the College of Surgeons in Dublin and moved to Barcelona for a year.

While there, her fiancé, a consultant surgeon in Birmingham, committed suicide. On her return to Dublin a year later she found a tumour in her breast which proved to be benign.

After an operation, she spent two years at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville before moving to Edinburgh in 1992 to work in the new transplant unit, where she was in charge of Michelle Paul's case. She is currently assistant professor at the University of Virginia, combining surgery with academia.

She has campaigned for more people to become organ donors and said yesterday that Michelle's case would lead to many lessons being learnt. "Not least the desperate shortage of donor organs that force us to make these difficult choices".

Mother wondered whether her past would cost Michelle her future



Michelle Paul

MICHELLE PAUL was a bright, popular 15-year-old who enjoyed parties, clubbing and pop music. However, her family background was troubled.

Michelle's mother, Carolann Paul, had been a drug addict; her stepfather, John Paul, was in Perth prison for drug-related offences; and her sister, Marie, 19, was an intravenous drug user.

When Michelle took Ecstasy and suffered a rare reaction her mother wondered whether her own past was costing Michelle her future. On November 4, 1995, Michelle had gone with friends to a local rave,

THE PATIENT

where she took half an Ecstasy tablet. The next day she was lethargic and did not attend Northfield Academy, in Aberdeen, where she was a pupil.

For the next fortnight Michelle was not her usual self. Her GP was called and on November 17 Michelle was admitted to Aberdeen Royal Infirmary. By this time she was seriously ill.

Describing a visit to Michelle at this time her mother said: "When I was approaching the ward I heard

a hysterical, fearful scream and I knew it was Michelle... She seemed unconscious, her face was swollen. She didn't respond to my voice. I had to lift her eyelids but there was only a fixed stare. I had never witnessed anybody, on any drug, experiencing those effects and I told staff I believed my daughter was very sick."

Although Michelle was thought to be suffering from hepatitis, liver function tests that could have indicated the gravity of her condition were not carried out in Aberdeen. It was four days before she was transferred to the liver unit

in Edinburgh and by then it was too late. "I knew Michelle had acted irresponsibly but knew that, when she woke up with the reality of what drugs could do to her, she would take care of herself," Mrs Paul said. When she heard that a decision had been made by the Edinburgh team not to give Michelle a transplant she could not believe her ears. She was convinced her own medical history played a part in the decision. The team had discussed Michelle's background and Mrs Paul's drug-taking had come up. Mrs Paul had made no secret of her battle with drugs. She had

worked hard to give them up and spent seven months away from home at a Church of Scotland drug rehabilitation centre while suffering from hepatitis C. She was a model patient and one of the centre's success stories. Michelle, Marie, and her brother Michael, then 14, were looked after by Mrs Paul's mother, Margaret Pirie.

infection and diabetes. The chances of her responding well to the transplant were almost non-existent.

On November 27, the day of Michelle's death, her grandmother, Mrs Pirie, deeply distressed, bumped into Dr Sanfey in the hospital corridor. The surgeon had asked what was wrong and Mrs Pirie replied that Michelle was going to die that day. Mrs Pirie claimed that Dr Sanfey had said she [Mrs Pirie] would never understand. "I said, 'no, I never will understand', and I just said, 'get away from me,'" she told the inquiry.

Abortions rise for first time in 5 years

By Ian Murray, Medical Correspondent

FAMILY planners called for an urgent review of contraceptive services yesterday as figures showed the first increase for five years in the number of abortions carried out in England and Wales.

The rise was highest among teenagers, with 15.2 per cent more abortions in the 16-19 age group than in 1995. However, the Government figures show that there were increases in every age group up to 44, with the total number of abortions rising by 13,587 to 177,225, 8.3 per cent more than in 1995.

Among girls under 16 the number rose by 11.3 per cent, from 3,270 to 3,639. There were 28,746 terminations among teenagers over 16, the highest number in any of the age groups.

Anne Weyman, chief executive of the Family Planning Association, said: "Although the Pill scare is a contributing factor it cannot be held solely to blame. An increase after

years of falling rates shows that many women are not getting the help and support they need."

She said there should be an urgent review of family planning services to determine whether they were meeting women's demands. "Specialist family planning services are diminishing at an alarming rate and those that remain are restricted to under 25s," she said. "Unintended pregnancy is an issue for all ages and we are working to ensure that available services reflect this."

Nuala Scarisbrick, a trustee of the anti-abortion group Life, said: "The surge in teenage abortion must be due above all to the 'value-free' sex education and the pernicious influence of the media to which the young are exposed. When will the Government see that we have got it badly wrong and admit that the condom culture increases the amount of teenage pregnancy and abortion."

Working mothers face health risk

By Robin Young and Emma Wilkins

WORKING mothers are at greater risk than childless career women of suffering health problems, including heart attacks, according to American research published today.

Researchers at Duke University Medical Center in North Carolina found that stress hormone levels in working mothers rose each morning and remained high once the women returned home. Stress hormone levels subsided only at bedtime, the survey of 109 working mothers showed.

Regardless of marital status, women with children living at home had higher levels of the stress hormone cortisol throughout a 24-hour period than working women without children. Mothers with one child at home had stress hormone levels just as high as those with more than one child.

"The good news is that working mothers' stress levels

do not go up further with the number of children in the home," Redford Williams, the head of behavioural medicine at the centre, said. "The bad news is that it only takes one child to boost that stress level, and keep it up all day."

Previous studies into stress had concentrated on working men, Dr Williams said. "We are only just beginning to compile our knowledge of how stress factors affect women. We know that men tend to unwind when they come home. For working mothers there is no let up. The stress levels go up in the morning and stay high all day."

While there is no comparable British study, Jennifer Lisle of City University in London said that she was not surprised by the findings. Dr Lisle, a public health physician specialising in the health of the working population, said: "Women are under pressure at work and there is no let up when they get home."

Plagiarist, 13, fools poetry judges

By Russell Jenkins

A GIRL who won £1,250 for herself and her school in a national poetry competition will have to return the money after it was found that her winning entry was copied from a work by one of the country's best-known poets.

Sarah Hayes, 13, impressed the judges of the Rainforest Poetry competition, sponsored by the Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition, with the imagination, maturity and sense of style in her entry entitled *The Newcomer*.

Her school, Joseph Eastham High, which received £1,000 of the prize money, was delighted by the efforts of the pupil they described as passionate about the environment. What the judges had failed to realise, however, was that the schoolgirl, from Little Hulton, Greater Manchester, had borrowed her inspiration and words verbatim from Brian Patten's work of the same name published in *The*



Sarah Hayes took a leaf out of someone else's book

Puffin Book of Twentieth Century Children's Verse, edited by Mr Patten himself. The competition organisers, who learnt of the poem's provenance only when it was published in a local newspaper, were yesterday owning up to the embarrassment of not recognising such a famous work. The school has returned the cheque. Sarah was said by her family to be mortified. However, Mr Pat-

ten, one of the few poets to earn their living from being a poet, came to Sarah's defence. "I am happy that she found the poem of enough interest to draw attention to the issues. Perhaps she will go on to write some really good stuff of her own, and good luck to her. If the judges did not spot it, tough luck on them."

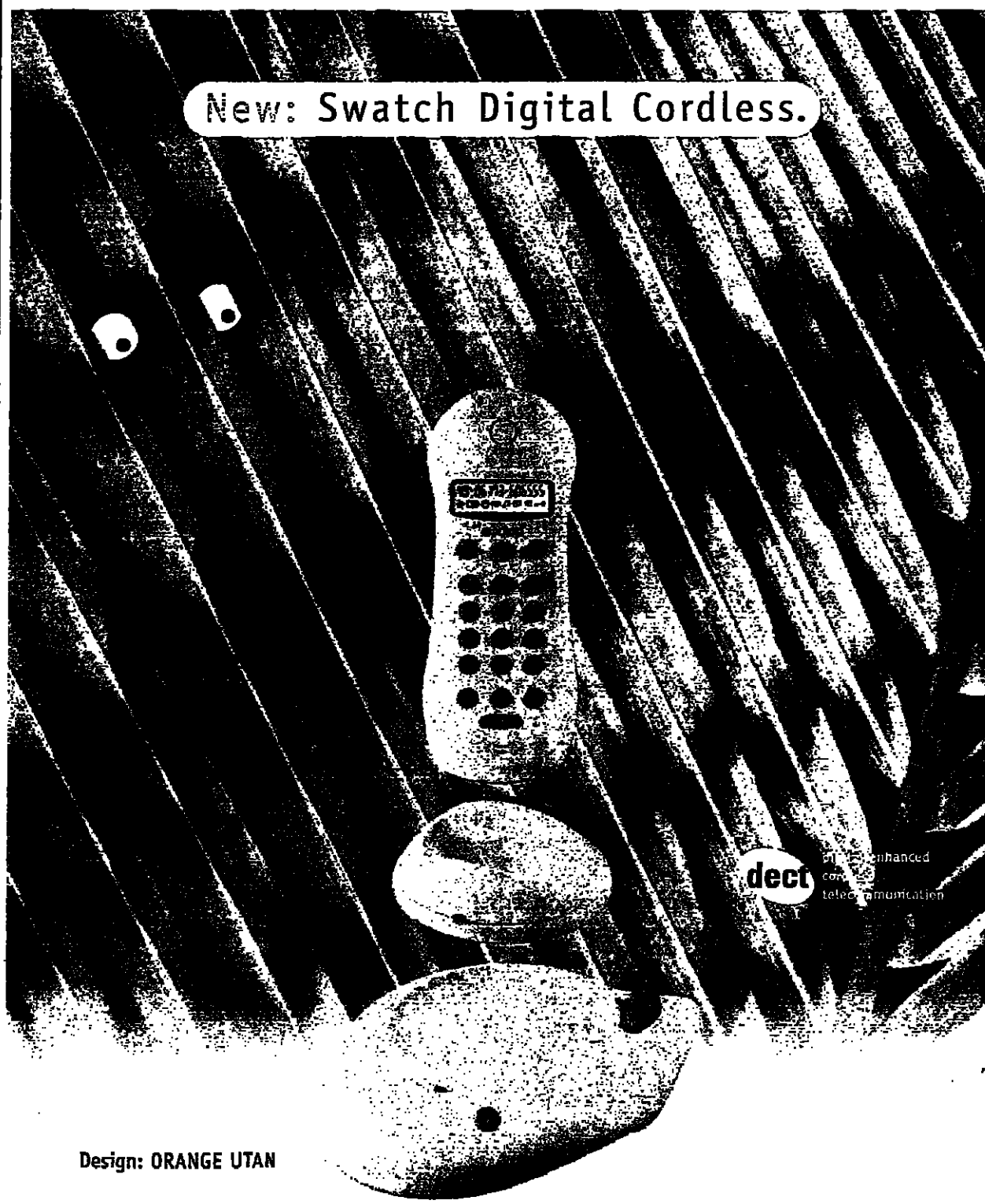
The competition, organised by the Education Business Partnership, of St Albans, for

the company behind the Ideal Home Exhibition, received 90,000 entries from schools around the country.

The plagiarism was uncovered when the winning poem's "author" was pictured in a local newspaper sitting under a tree beside the words of the winning entry. The newspaper was inundated with calls pointing out that the poem is justly famous among ten-year-olds.

The deputy head teacher telephoned the exhibition company with the revelations of juvenile plagiarism. The competition organisers said: "It is very embarrassing all round. We asked whether the young lady had been spoken to, and the deputy head said, 'Oh, yes'."

Sarah's mother Julia said: "I just wish she had confided in me. She will return the cheque." Her grandfather, Brian Scallion, 61, said that Sarah had wanted to own up to her mother some weeks ago, but couldn't do it.



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The Queen will open Welsh assembly

The proposals for devolution in Wales include a role for the Royal Family that is seen as a bid to dismiss fears of a threat to the United Kingdom, Valerie Elliott reports

THE Queen has agreed to open the Welsh assembly if the people of Wales vote for devolution in September's referendum.

The arrangement, disclosed yesterday in the Government's White Paper on Welsh devolution, was seen as an attempt to neuter claims by the Tories and constitutional experts that the creation of a Welsh assembly and a Scottish parliament would lead to the break-up of the United Kingdom.

Ministers declined to reveal the salaries that would be paid to members of the new Welsh assembly, although government costings are understood to have been worked on the basis of a pay scale ranging from £32,000 to £35,000 a year. This compares with the £43,000 a year paid to MPs at Westminster. The salaries are to be examined by the Senior Salaries Review Board, but their recommendation will not be known before the Scottish referendum on September 11 or the Welsh vote a week later.

The first year costs of setting up the Welsh assembly was also disclosed yesterday to be about £37 million. The model for the assembly was presented to Parliament yesterday by Ron Davies, the Welsh Secretary. The White Paper confirmed that a Welsh Assembly would take over responsibility for the allocation of £7 billion, the annual budget at present distributed by the Welsh Secretary and the Welsh Office.

It would also take over the decision-making functions of the Welsh Office in relation to economic development; agriculture; fisheries and food; industry and training; education; local government; health and personal social services; housing, environment, planning, transport and roads; arts, culture and the Welsh language; historic buildings, sport and recreation.

The paper, *A Voice for*

Wales, describes the make-up of the assembly. Forty members each representing a constituency would be elected by majority vote, and another 20 would be elected by proportional representation on the basis of party political lists.

But ministers have yet to decide where the assembly will sit. The favourite is Cardiff City Hall, an impressive stone structure in a commanding position in the Welsh capital.

The first elections would take place on May 6, 1999, and the first-year bill to the taxpayer will be an extra £35 million. The start-up costs are forecast at between £12 million and £17 million, with additional running costs at between £15 million and £20 million a year, or about £6 for every person in Wales. The present Welsh Office running costs are £72 million a year.

Ministers are keen that assembly members should be people of a high calibre. They are clearly hoping that all political parties will take a close look at the names put forward for election.

For its first session ministers also believe that it would be useful for MPs or MEPs to stand for election. They insist, however, that being a member of the assembly will be a full-time position.

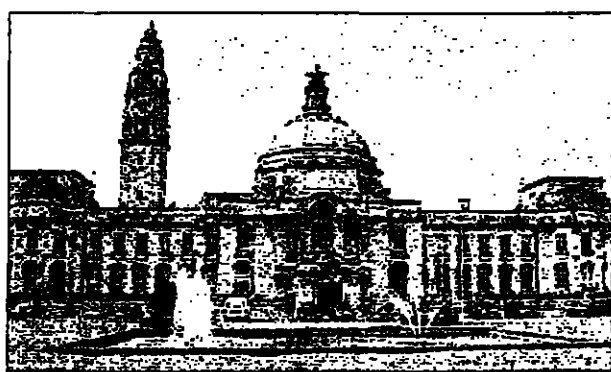
Although the assembly

would not have tax-raising powers, it would have considerable powers in implementing legislation passed at Westminster. The scope for this secondary legislation is considerable and ministers say, for example, that if the assembly had existed under the Tory Government, Wales would have been able to reject nursery vouchers. During the Thatcher administration it might also have been able to opt out of the poll tax.

Foreign Office ministers and Britain's representative in Brussels would retain the leading policy role for the whole Government. But the assembly could have some representation in Brussels. It will take over the administration of the European structural funds in Wales, a sum projected to be £1,280 million up to 1999.

The Palace of Westminster would continue to be able to hold the assembly to account and the Public Accounts Committee would have a remit to question the efficiency and value for money of the assembly and the decisions that it made.

Any complaints about the conduct of the assembly would be examined by the Attorney-General, or senior law lords who make up the judicial committee of the Privy Council.



Cardiff City Hall, where the Welsh assembly would sit



Vocal supporters of the pro-devolution campaign, from left: Jan Morris, Howard Marks, Sian Lloyd and the Most Rev Alwyn Rice Jones

Celebrities lend their names to the cause

By MARK HENDERSON

WALES'S famous sons and daughters welcomed the blueprint for a devolved assembly yesterday, as Labour invited celebrities to launch the campaign for a yes vote on September 18.

The writers Jan Morris and Dannie Abse, the Archbishop of Wales, Alwyn Rice Jones, and the former drug smuggler Howard Marks all added their voices to those of the

sports and television stars who joined the Welsh secretary, Ron Davies, in a pro-devolution rally at Cardiff Castle last night.

At the rally, organised by the Yes for Wales campaign, the ITV weather forecaster Sian Lloyd introduced Mr Davies to a crowd that included the entertainer Max Boyce, the former Welsh rugby union international Nigel Walker and the actor Philip Madoc. Other Welsh stars,

including the footballer Ryan Giggs, the athlete Colin Jackson, the actress Sian Phillips and chart-topping bands Manic Street Preachers and Super Furry Animals sent messages of support.

The British Lions rugby players Scott Gibbs and Iwan Evans are also strong supporters of devolution.

Ms Lloyd, who was brought up in Neath, said yesterday that establishing a Welsh assembly was a question of

national pride. "There is a great new spirit here, which has made devolution more important than it has ever been," she said.

"I have been out of Wales for seven or eight years, and when I came over the Severn Bridge today I was proud to pay my £3.90 and come home. An assembly can build on that Welsh pride and prove that we are capable of running our own affairs."

On Friday, supporters of devolution from the literary world will announce their support at the St Peter's Rugby Club in Cardiff. The poet Robert Minihan, who was recently appointed Director of Poetry in Wales, and Jan Morris will be among those present.

Ms Morris, who campaigned in favour of devolution in 1979, said she would be supporting an assembly, even though her own preference was for an independent Wales. "It would be a happy medium that everybody could support. I am in favour of

independence but I am a bit of a nutter about it. "I have noticed in my travels around the world that the happiest countries seem to be the smaller ones which still have their own identity."

Dannie Abse, who was born in Cardiff and recently edited an anthology of Anglo-Welsh poetry, said: "I'm not quite as strongly in favour as I was because there is no longer the need to save Wales from Toryism, but I do believe there should be an assembly."

Howard Marks, the marijuana smuggler who was brought up in Kenfigh, near Bridgend, said last night he thought the assembly would be a great opportunity for Wales. "I'm very close to the green grass of home, and I will definitely be campaigning for a yes vote," he said.

The Most Rev Alwyn Rice Jones, said: "The disestablishment of the Welsh church in 1920 worked wonders for its confidence, and devolution can do the same thing for the whole country."

City Hall staff unimpressed

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

PLANS for a Welsh assembly received a cool reception from the few remaining workers at Cardiff City Hall, the Edwardian building expected to house the new chamber.

Most have moved from one of the finest civic buildings in Britain to swanky new offices in the regenerated docks after the abolition of the old city

council earlier this year. Unless there is a Yes vote on September 18, City Hall may then be abandoned after hosting next summer's European summit.

Dee Fitzpatrick, 22, a catering assistant, has little interest in Welsh politics or history. "I can't see why they want to change things," she said. Sian Landry, the City Hall receptionist, said: "I don't know

why they want to change things. I would certainly vote No in a referendum."

One of the difficulties that would face staff working for the assembly is that they would probably have to speak Welsh. Paul O'Neill, a caterer, said: "Welsh is a lovely language but the trouble is it's so bloody difficult to learn. Now, if it was French I'd probably be all right."

Ashdown welcomes Lib Dem role on Cabinet committee

By JILL SHERMAN
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR yesterday took an historic step towards closer co-operation between Labour and the Liberal Democrats with the announcement of a new Cabinet committee with membership split between the two parties.

The move, which will give the Liberal Democrats an important role in shaping government policy, reflects Tony Blair's determination to forge a less adversarial style of politics despite Labour's huge Commons majority. Downing Street denied that the committee

represented a pact or coalition, but it marks the strongest alliance between the two parties the Lib-Lab pact was created to prop up James Callaghan's government some 20 years ago.

The committee, which will focus on issues of mutual interest, including the constitution, will be chaired by the Prime Minister and will include four Cabinet ministers, one other minister and five Liberal Democrats including Paddy Ashdown.

The Cabinet members are expected to include Robin Cook, Ann Taylor, and two out of three others: John Prescott, Jack Straw and

Gordon Brown. Peter Mandelson, Minister without Portfolio who is not in the Cabinet, will also sit on the committee.

The Liberal Democrats will include Alan Beith, Robert Maclennan, Lord Holme of Cheltenham, and Menzies Campbell. Other issues which the committee could cover include Europe, Northern Ireland, freedom of information and human rights.

Downing Street insisted that there had been only two precedents for joint committees this century: one for a disarmament conference in 1931; and another covering defence research from 1935 to

1937. Mr Blair discussed the committee with Mr Ashdown before the general election but the deal was said to have been finalised after Mr Blair's recent trip to Hong Kong when he flew back with the Liberal Democrat leader.

The Cabinet consultative committee will meet monthly and begin by discussing constitutional issues shortly after the summer recess. Top of the Liberal Democrat agenda is a commission on electoral reform for the House of Commons.

That will be set up this autumn and report within a year on the best alternative to the first-past-the-post system. The Liberal Democrats

will see the new committee as a sign that Mr Blair is softening his opposition to proportional representation at Westminster. However, Downing Street sources made clear yesterday that Mr Blair was "unpersuaded on the merits of PR".

They also pointed out that the committee would "bind them [the Liberal Democrats] in a bit", adding: "We are not going to have a 179 majority for ever." Sceptics yesterday saw the committee as a sop to Mr Ashdown and an indication that Mr Blair would not relent over proportional representation.

But Downing Street made clear that the Liberal Democrats would

still be able to oppose Labour policy when they wished.

Those on the committee will, however, have to sign the Official Secrets Act and they will face restrictions on the publication of their memoirs in the same way as ministers do. The Liberal Democrat members will not be able to attend the full Cabinet and Downing Street ruled out any ministerial appointments for them in the future.

A Labour spokesman said that the move was "part of our fulfilment of a new politics". He said that the Prime Minister "has stated, despite our huge majority,

he is determined to usher in a new politics in which parties which agree with each other should be able to say so and make an input into each other's ideas."

Mr Ashdown welcomed the proposal. "We fought the election, not only for more investment in education and health, a new environmental agenda and our programme of democratic renewal, but also for a more rational kind of politics."

Mr Ashdown said that he would continue to criticise Mr Blair over what he believed was the Government's failure to invest in education but would work with him where that was of benefit to the nation.

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Offer also applies to spouses

Alliance is insurance against Tory revival

RIDDELL
ON POLITICS

TONY Blair cannot lose from the new consultative Cabinet committee with the Liberal Democrats. This demonstrates his commitment to a more pluralist style of politics. Even though the Liberal Democrat members will not be formally constrained like ministers, the existence of the committee will tie them into the Government's constitutional reform proposals. The potential benefits for Paddy Ashdown and his party are less certain. A smaller party has seldom gained from co-operating with a larger governing party.

Nonetheless, the attempt by Mr Blair and Mr Ashdown to create a less chauvinist style of politics deserves to succeed. Neither leader is comfortable with what both deny as partisan "tribalism". Mr Blair's leadership has been based on appealing to a much wider group than traditional Labour loyalists, while Mr Ashdown has preached the politics of co-operation since his Chard speech five years ago. This need not mean electoral pacts or formal coalitions, but can mean parties working together even when one has a big Commons majority.

This approach was marked before the election by the two parties' Joint Consultative Committee chaired by Robin Cook and Robert Maclennan, which produced a common programme of constitutional reform. Since May 1, Mr Blair and Mr Ashdown have kept in touch, and the latter has been guarded in his criticisms of the Government, developing a doctrine of "constructive opposition".

where there is agreement, as on most constitutional issues, and criticism on, for example, levels of education or health spending. The first tangible result was last week's announcement that legislation will be introduced to hold the elections to the European Parliament in 1999 on the basis of proportional representation, which will benefit the Liberal Democrats.

The new committee, consisting of leaders of both parties, is intended to show that this new co-operative spirit will be a permanent part of government. Mr Ashdown and his colleagues will sit on a real Cabinet committee serviced by the Cabinet secretariat and they will have to sign the Official Secrets Act - even though ministers will still make policy and the Liberal Democrats will not be bound by collective responsibility. There are only two precedents - a ministerial group on disarmament in 1931 and one on defence research in 1935-37, though party leaders have been formally involved on sensitive defence matters, as Balfour was after 1905. The new committee is also different from the informal, and uneasy, party consultations of the Lib-Lab pact of 1977-78.

The test will be whether there is genuine dialogue on constitutional reform - over items in the pipeline like incorporation of the European Convention of Human Rights and freedom of information, where the Liberal Democrats could, and should, combat the more conservative elements in Whitehall.

The trickiest issue will be electoral reform for Westminster. The pre-election Joint Consultative Committee proposed an independent commission to consider a proportional alternative to a first-past-the-post, with the choice being put to the public in a referendum later in this Parliament. The new committee will discuss the commission's terms of reference, and it will probably be set up after the party conferences. That is where pluralism stops for Mr Blair since he remains "unpersuaded of the merits" of PR for the Commons. So there is eventually likely to be an impasse on this issue.

Meanwhile, the new committee, and PR for the European elections, provides substance to the rhetoric of co-operation. That is vital, both personally and politically, for Mr Ashdown as he seeks a role alongside the Labour juggernaut. He needs to show results. For Mr Blair, the new committee is not just symbolic of a new style of politics. It is also an insurance. He wants to keep the Liberal Democrats as allies in face of any Tory revival in a few years.

PETER RIDDELL

IN PARLIAMENT

TODAY in the Commons: from 8.30am, backbench debate; from 2.30pm, international development questions; Prime Minister's Questions; debate on trading; Ministerial weekly questions; Ministerial and Other Business; Bill, all stages; debate on Lockdown and the Crown Office; in the Lords: Education (Schools) Bill, third reading; Local Government Finance (Supplementary Grants) Bill, second reading; Local Government Act (Consequential) (Devolved Authorities) (Scotland) Amendment Order; debate on trust between central and local government.

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Bonn calls for 'Club Mad' missile shield

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT, AND DEBORAH COLCUTT IN FRANKFURT

PLANS are being discussed between the United States and Germany to form a combined anti-missile brigade that would protect Nato bases and forces from the so-called 'Club Mad' group of regimes — Iran, Iraq and Libya. Dutch missile units could also be involved.

German military sources said the combined anti-missile force would be a mobile unit that could defend Nato's southern flank from ballistic or cruise missile attack, as well as being deployed 'out of area' to protect alliance forces intervening in regional conflicts.

The missiles in service in Germany which would be included in the combined force would be the American Patriot system, the Franco-German Roland weapon, and the US Hawk. If the Dutch become involved, they would contribute Patriots.

The plan has not met with much enthusiasm from the US military because it is concerned that it will provide the Germans and other European partners with an excuse to delay developing their own

anti-missile systems. The Germans now lease American Patriots and the lease agreement is up for renewal next year.

The leased Patriots are ageing systems and if the Germans had decided against renewing the lease, the missiles would have been 'thrown on the bonfire', as one American source put it. Instead, the Germans proposed a combined missile force.

A spokesman for the US Army in Europe said the proposal was to form a US-German joint air defence artillery brigade, based on Patriot, Roland and Hawk systems. The proposal reflects the increasing concern in Nato about the future missile threat from maverick regimes such as Iran, Iraq and Libya which were dubbed the Club Mad group of countries two years ago by Roger Freeman, then Defence Procurement Minister.

Since the Gulf War, when the US-led coalition faced Scud missile attacks from the Iraqis, there have been studies about the threat from Third World ballistic missiles. How-

ever, while the Americans have been pouring money into development programmes to upgrade the Patriot system, European members of Nato have done little to match the US efforts, because of the costs involved.

Britain has carried out studies but no money has yet been allocated to develop an anti-missile system. There appear to be two camps in the Ministry of Defence: one that dismisses the threat, the other that advocates a 'wait-and-see' policy.

Although the ballistic missile threat to Nato bases is limited, potentially hostile regimes with Scud missiles in service are developing longer-range systems which could reach key alliance installations within the next ten years.

Libya is believed to be funding a North Korean programme to develop longer-range versions of the Nodong missile which would be capable of reaching Nato bases such as the American ones at Sigonella in Sicily, Aviano in northern Italy and Incirlik in Turkey, and British bases in Cyprus and Gibraltar.

Germans prepare for new wave of floods

VOLUNTEERS piled up sandbags yesterday in a struggle to hold back the raging Oder River in Germany as rescue workers battled to plug holes in river defences before an expected resurgence in flooding.

Water was already starting to spill through dykes intended to contain the swollen river which flows along the border between Germany and Poland. Skies cleared over eastern Germany for the first time in days but the danger grew nonetheless, with the Oder continuing its rise.

Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, on a scheduled trip to eastern Germany, made a detour to Frankfurt an der Oder, a city of 80,000 about 60 miles east of Berlin, to assure flood-hit inhabitants that they could count on full government support.

"Now the point is to do everything that we can do to help the people here," Herr Kohl said. "Thank God Germany has been unified and all Germans regard this as their country and their problem."

The flooding has killed about 100 people in Poland and the Czech Republic in the past two weeks. The death toll in Poland rose to 56 overnight with the discovery of four more bodies.

In Ratzdorf, a village of 350 at the confluence of the Oder and Neisse rivers, people worked through the night to save their homes.



Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, crosses a flooded street in Frankfurt an der Oder during a visit yesterday

Yachtsman sails into Cousteau feud

FROM SUSAN BELL IN PARIS

A FAMILY feud raging between Jacques Cousteau's widow and the underwater explorer's estranged eldest son moved into a new stage of hostilities yesterday after the announcement that the New Zealand yachtsman, Sir Peter Blake, had been named to carry on the work of the French oceanographer.

Jean-Michel Cousteau, who believes he is the old sailor's spiritual heir, criticised the choice of the skipper, who took the New Zealand team to victory in the America's Cup in 1995, to succeed his father at the helm of the marine research vessel, *Calypso II*.

"It is absurd to want to do Cousteau without Cousteau. For me, this is a media coup. You can't tell me that Peter Blake can put on a red cap and

be Captain Cousteau," he said. "As a navigator, Peter Blake is an extraordinary individual. I have great respect for him. That being so, I do not think that he is a businessman in the same league as my father."

Jean-Michel is at loggerheads with Franchine Cousteau, 51, who is six years younger than her stepson. Within days of her husband's death, she announced that she had taken over "the Cousteau

Society with exclusive use of the Cousteau name". The oceanographer's son was furious, particularly as his father filed a suit against him two years ago after the two fell out over Jean-Michel's decision to call his marine sanctuary holiday resort in the Pacific the "Cousteau Fiji Islands Resort". The name was changed but Jean-Michel, who believes his stepmother was behind the suit, remains bitter.

Sir Peter said he was delighted about his job, but was puzzled. "Why wasn't Jean-Michel Cousteau chosen for this post?" he asked.

Cousteau, who died last month at the age of 87, had indicated before his death that there was no possibility of his son succeeding him. "It's not because a child is born of your sperm that he has the necessary qualities to replace you," he said in a 1993 interview.

Kennedy 'sorry' for breaking law

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

JOSEPH KENNEDY, the son of the late Robert Kennedy, issued an apology yesterday for breaking the law after one of his sons suffered second-degree burns at an illegal fireworks party at the family estate in Hyannis Port, Massachusetts.

The possession and setting off of fireworks is banned in the state. Mr Kennedy, who is campaigning to secure the Democratic Party's nomination for the state Governor's post next year, now faces a fine of \$100 (£59). He said yesterday that he had received the fireworks "from a friend" who he declined to name.

The incident is likely to raise questions about Mr Kennedy's suitability for high office. The anti-fireworks measure is widely known and supported in Massachusetts. The fireworks party at the Kennedy home — which locals describe as a "full-blown display" — has provoked complaints of double-standards from ordinary citizens.

A statement from the Kennedy family said that "a spark-emitting firework" had burnt

the left forearm of Matthew, one of Mr Kennedy's 16-year-old twins by his former wife, Sheila Rauch. The boys live with their mother, who is reported to be furious. Matthew was treated for second-degree burns at the Cape Cod Hospital, and released. The other son, Joseph III, was unharmed.

Yesterday Mr Kennedy said: "It was a mistake. It was something we should not have been doing, and I'm just glad that Matt will be okay." He also used the word "sorry", a word he has now begun to utter regularly in public.

Last month, at a Democratic Party rally in Salem, Massachusetts, he apologised to his former wife for failing to make their marriage work. "I've told you, I've told Sheila, I've told anyone who cared, how sorry I am," he said.

Later, Mr Kennedy apologised on behalf of his brother Michael, who was accused of having sex with an under-age family babysitter. "I am so very sorry, so very sorry," he said, "for what has happened to the babysitter's family."

WORLD SUMMARY

Versace gun linked to earlier murders

Washington: The gun used to murder Gianni Versace last week had been employed in two earlier killings attributed to Andrew Cunanan, the gay gigolo and prime suspect in the Italian designer's death, Miami police said (Tom Rhodes writes). Bullets from the scene matched those used on two of the alleged spree killer's earlier victims.

The trail of Mr Cunanan, who may now be disguised in drag, appears to have gone cold. Police said that none of the thousands of reports of his continued presence in Florida — including one that he had been seen wearing a bikini on Miami Beach this week — could be confirmed.

Truce agreed in salmon war

Los Angeles: Canada's fisheries minister has persuaded British Columbian fishermen to end a three-day blockade of an American ship, the *Malaspina*, carrying 135 tourists (Giles Whittell writes). David Anderson promised representatives of about 300 vessels in Prince Rupert to increase pressure on Washington to restart talks that have given way to a low-key salmon war. However, Alaska's governor has vowed to sue the Canadian fishermen for overtime incurred by the ship's crew.

Palestinian minister resigns

Jerusalem: Fethi Abu Meddein, right, the hardline Palestinian Justice Minister who spearheaded the policy of execution for Palestinians who sell land to Jews, has resigned (Christopher Walker writes). Mr Abu Meddein said he had resigned over some appointments, made without his consent, but senior PLO officials claimed the move was connected with recent allegations of corruption within the Palestinian Authority.



Argentina holds oil talks

London: Guido Di Tella, Argentina's Foreign Minister, today holds his first round of talks with the British Government in the hope that it will urge the Falkland Islanders to respond more positively to overtures from Buenos Aires (Michael Brynion writes). Argentina expects no change over sovereignty, but hopes to increase co-operation in oil exploration.

New orders for garrison

Hong Kong: China's People's Liberation Army can suppress "turmoil" on direct orders from Beijing despite Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa's pre-handover assurances that only he could mobilise troops (Jonathan Mirsky writes). But Mr Tung's office and the Security Branch said the possibility was "remote". Percy Cradock, page 18

Captain quits cruise ship

Hamburg: Hartwig von Harling, captain of the German cruise ship *Hanseatic*, which he ran aground in the Norwegian fjord for four days this month, said he would no longer sail the vessel. It happened ten months after he beached the ship on a sandbank in the North West Passage in the Canadian Arctic. (AFP)

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Russia risks cut in aid with ban on religious sects

FROM ROBIN LODGE IN MOSCOW

PRESIDENT YELTSIN was poised yesterday to sign a law to restrict the activities of sects and other religious minorities. The move would be certain to boost his popularity at home, while risking opprobrium abroad and the loss of hundreds of millions of dollars in foreign aid.

The Bill "on Freedom of Conscience and Religious Association" was passed by both houses of parliament this month after receiving strong backing from the Russian Orthodox Church and nationalist politicians. But it has been criticised by human rights groups who say it violates the rights to freedom of conscience enshrined in the constitution.

Groups such as the Mormons, Baptists and Pentecostals in particular are likely to find themselves ensnared in legal problems if the Bill is approved. They would be

banned from owning property, publishing literature or even worshipping in public.

The Bill seeks to give full legal status to Russia's traditional religious faiths, defined as the Orthodox Church, Islam, Judaism and Buddhism. Apart from these, it states that only faiths and denominations that have been registered in Russia for 15 years would be recognised.

The stated aim of the Bill is to clamp down on the activities of extremist religious sects — such as the Japanese group Aum Shinrikyo which was linked with the sarin gas attack in the Tokyo subway in 1995 and other organisations such as the White Brotherhood group, which has been accused of preying on young people.

Hundreds of these sects have mushroomed all over the country during the past six years, feeding off the despera-

tion of an impoverished and directionless population. Orthodox Church figures involved in drafting the Bill have also seized the opportunity to thwart the activities of other Christian denominations, particularly evangelical churches from the United States.

The small Church of England community in Moscow and St Petersburg, consisting mainly of expatriates, is not expected to be affected by the law, although it could theoretically reopen a legal wrangle over the ownership of St Andrew's Cathedral in Moscow.

The Pope has criticised the Bill as threatening the survival of the Roman Catholic Church in Russia. He has written to Mr Yeltsin to ask him not to sign the Bill. The US Senate has said it will block \$200m (£119 million) of aid if the Bill is signed into law.

Crash mars Mormon revival

FROM GILES WHITTILL IN LOS ANGELES

A HORSE-DRAWN wagon plunged out of control down a steep slope in the Western Rockies as it neared the end of a three-month trek to mark the 150th anniversary of the Mormons' arrival in Salt Lake City. Three adults and three children were thrown clear.

Unfolding before journalists, the accident was the only mishap in an otherwise flawless public relations extravaganza mounted by the Mormons to commemorate their forebears' 1300-mile odyssey from Nebraska in 1847 in search of a refuge from the persecution they had suffered, mainly for practising polygamy. That trek ended with Brigham Young's fabled declaration that "this is the place" as he gazed down on the Great Salt Lake and its broad valley.

Founded in the 1830s, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints now claims to have nearly ten million members.



Horses continue to pull the front axle as the Mormon wagon runs out of control

US faults China for curbs on worship

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE United States, in its most detailed global report on the persecution of Christian groups, has sharply criticised China for suppressing freedom of prayer and cracking down on unauthorised religious activity.

The report, covering 78 countries, accuses Beijing of violating constitutional promises of religious freedom and of detaining and interrogating Catholic and Protestant leaders not authorised by Beijing.

The report was prepared after requests from Congress which wants a US policy designed to reduce growing religious persecution.

America continues to be critical of Saudi Arabia and Iran. In Israel, Jehovah's Witnesses have been harassed and attacked.

Madeleine Albright, the US Secretary of State, has instructed American embassies to give more attention to questions of religious freedom and to stay closely in touch with leading religious figures.

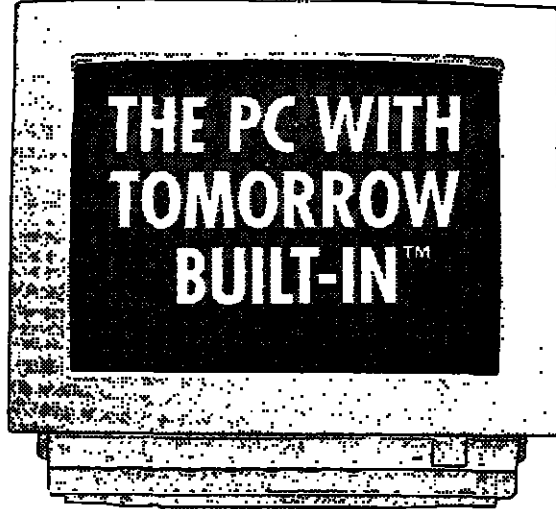
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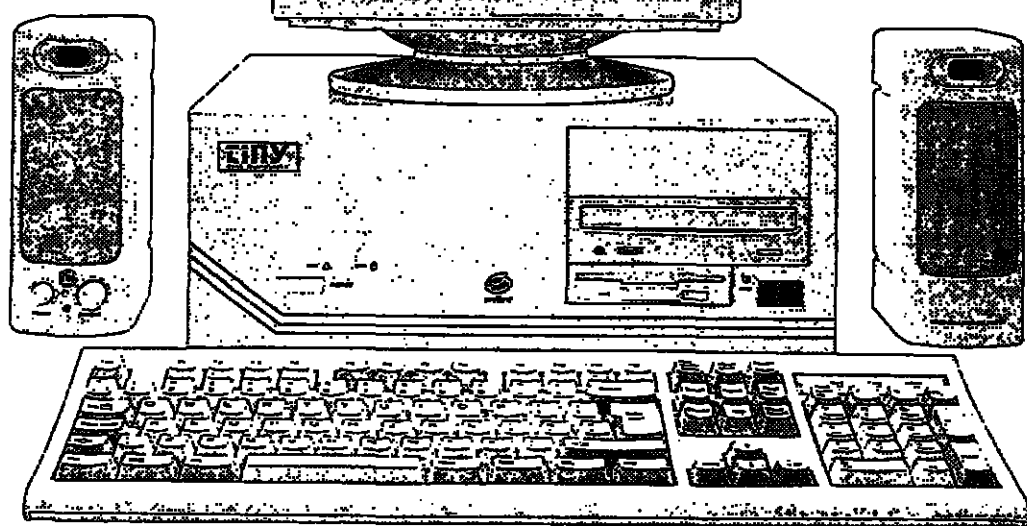
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Brazil lawless as police join strike

FROM GABRIELLA GAMINI IN RIO DE JANEIRO

THE army was deployed yesterday to police the streets of several Brazilian cities after more than 40,000 police joined a strike that has in recent days led to looting, Wild West-style shoot-outs and a free-for-all for criminals.

Demands for pay rises — in some areas policemen are paid as little as £120 a month — have led to lawlessness in the northern states of Alagoas, Mato Grosso, Pernambuco and Mato Grosso do Sul. Police in Alagoas staged their walk-out last week and officers from ten other states followed.

Troops in tanks and armoured vehicles were sent to "restore order" yesterday in Macaé, the capital of Alagoas, after looters petrol-bombed their way into banks and shops. Twenty-five people were seriously injured in gun battles near the state government building, which Divaldo Suruagy, the Governor, abandoned by helicopter.

More than 5,500 police in Rio Grande do Sul announced that they would not work tomorrow. Police in the two biggest, and most crime-ridden, cities of São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, have threatened to strike on Friday.

In most states the authorities are expected to offer a long-overdue salary increase.

But the lawlessness that has spread across Brazilian cities in the past few days has highlighted the urgent need for reform. "Low salaries are the reason why our police force is corruption ridden, and some officers supplement their incomes by joining death squads," said Helio Luz, Rio's chief of police.

The squads are funded by businessmen or shopkeepers who want their streets cleared of vagrants or street children. Police often work hand-in-hand with drug traffickers who control shanty towns in Rio, or mount roadblocks and shamelessly demand bribes.

Human rights groups have listed more than 5,000 abuses committed by police in Rio and São Paulo this year. Video tapes shown on television a few months ago caught patrolmen outside two slums executing one man and beating several dozen teenagers on their way to a party.

Three officers have been sentenced to life in prison for killing eight street children on the steps of a Rio de Janeiro church in 1993. But most officers accused of executing civilians have been acquitted.

"Our police are plagued by a cancer... We need to recruit a new generation and pay them decent salaries," Senhor Luz said.

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Priebke to serve five years for Rome massacre

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

AN ITALIAN military court yesterday sentenced the former SS Captain Erich Priebke to a 15-year prison term for his part in the massacre of 335 civilians in Nazi-occupied Rome but said he should serve a maximum of five years, apparently because of his age.

The sentence on the 83-year-old Priebke was expected to spark indignation from the families of those shot at the Ardeatine Caves on the outskirts of Rome on March 24, 1944. The prosecutor had asked for a life sentence.

Antonio Invernizzi, the prosecutor, said Priebke would only end up serving about 18 months because he had been in custody for 3½ years.

The court allowed another octogenarian former SS officer, Major Karl Haas, to walk free. He was granted ten years' remission, also because of his age, on his ten-year sentence.

"The number of years is not important. What's important is that Priebke's name will always be associated with shame," Giulia Spizzichino, who lost seven relatives in the massacre, said outside the court.

Antonio Lepore, one of the judges, said in a statement that the panel had taken into account that Priebke and Haas had been following orders.

It was the second trial for Priebke, a former captain who was extradited from Argentina in November 1995. He had lived for years in an Andean resort where he ran a delicatessen. His arrest came after his admission on US television of his role in the massacre.

During the trial a year ago another Italian military court found him guilty but ruled that he should be released immediately on the ground that he was acting under orders. That verdict was overturned by Italy's supreme court, the Court of Cassation, which ordered a retrial.

Neither Priebke nor Haas were present when the sentences were read.

The massacre was a reprisal

ordered to avenge the deaths of 33 German soldiers killed in a bomb attack by Italian resistance fighters. SS Lieutenant-Colonel Herbert Kappler ordered the killing of ten Italians for every German. In the end, two more Italians were also shot.

The victims, all civilians and including 75 Jews, were rounded up and taken to the caves. They were forced inside in groups of five, hands tied behind their backs, and shot in the back of the head. After the massacre, German soldiers blew up the entrance to the caves in a bid to cover up the crime.

During the trial, which opened on April 14, Priebke and Haas both admitted killing two hostages each but said

they were only following orders that had come directly from Hitler in Berlin.

Priebke said anyone who refused to take part would have faced an SS tribunal. "My death and the persecution of my family would not have saved those executed," he said. "We protested but there was nothing we could do. I had to shoot once at the beginning and then a second time when Kappler arrived. All the officers were made to shoot twice to establish discipline."

Among those in court for yesterday's verdict were Riccardo Pacifici, deputy president of an organisation representing Rome's Jewish community, and Shimon Samuels, of the Wiesenthal Centre, a Jewish research organisation on the Holocaust. He had said the trial was Italy's "last chance to deliver justice".

Elio Toaff, Rome's Chief Rabbi, said: "I am disappointed because what was missing completely was a clear condemnation of Nazi ideology that these people represented and which today is reviving in too many areas of Europe." But he added that the Jewish community had not sought to be vindictive. "Given today's problems, the sentence of those two people only interested me up to a certain point."

Elan Steinberg, executive director of the World Jewish Congress, said he felt the second trial had set the record straight. The verdict represented "an important day for justice, an important day for Italy". The court decision "demonstrates that the passage of time does not diminish the power of memory".

Haas's lawyer, Stefano Maccioni, for his part, said he was satisfied. "Certainly it is not an abolition, it is a conviction. But the important thing is freedom for Haas."

Priebke's lawyer, Giosue Naso, described the verdict as "an absurd sentence" but predicted that his client would be freed relatively soon. He added that it was an "Italian-style solution".



"We all protested but there was nothing we could do. I had to shoot."

— Priebke



Family fortunes: life expectancy in India has doubled in 50 years, but half of the country's children are malnourished, according to Unicef

INDIA has 40 per cent of the world's malnourished children, the United Nations announced yesterday. The statistic is one of many measures of poverty and disadvantage that weigh heavily on a country assessing the successes and failures of half a century of independence from Britain.

The UN Children's Fund (Unicef) issued its findings here jointly with the Indian Government in a report, *The Progress of Nations*. In some areas India's achievements, in particular the absence of starvation, vindicate government efforts. In others, such as population control, the results amount to an indictment.

The state of India's poor children is

Mother India fails to feed all her children

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

revealed in another report, *Lost Childhood*, released this week by India's National Commission for Women. It surveyed 28 Delhi brothels and found that as many as 60 per cent of sex workers were children. Girls as young as eight were brought from Bangladesh and Nepal. "There has been an

upward trend in the supply of children, especially from the Adivasi and Dalit (tribal and Untouchable) sections," it concludes.

The UN report says that there is no smallpox and almost no polio, and life expectancy has doubled in half a century to almost 61 years. Infant

mortality is down by half. But the desperate state of most children's lives is evident in health, nutrition, education and water. There are enormous regional variations, with children far more likely to die in poor states such as Bihar, Orissa and West Bengal.

More than half of Indian children are malnourished. Fewer than half the people of India, Bangladesh and Pakistan have access to sanitation. Twenty per cent of the world's children are Indian, and the population continues to rise by 17 million a year. There is no concerted political will to introduce birth control programmes, a sensitive area because of memories of enforced sterilisation in the 1970s.

Error beams porn into Arab homes

FROM SUSAN BELL IN PARIS

THE French Government apologised to Middle Eastern viewers yesterday after a French television channel accidentally broadcast a hardcore pornographic film across the Arab world instead of a scheduled children's programme.

As a potential audience of 33 million Arab viewers settled down last Saturday afternoon to watch an educational children's programme, they were

treated instead to the rather racist images of *Club Privé au Portugal*, the monthly pornographic film from Canal Plus, originally destined for the private cable channel's clients in France's overseas Pacific territories.

Those who did not turn off their sets in moral outrage may have been puzzled by the soundtrack — a voice-over from a French radio programme. The film was broadcast for 30 minutes.

State-funded Canal France International (CFI), which specialises in educational programmes for the overseas market, apologised for the mistake which resulted in all its programmes being immediately taken off the air by the Arabsat satellite consortium. Arabsat, which is based in Saudi Arabia and is owned by 21 Arab states, was responsible for the transmission of the film. It called the broadcast "an attack on Islamic

morals", and "an insane provocation" and said it had cancelled the French company's contract.

French diplomats were working hard yesterday to try to smooth over what could be a disaster for France's efforts to reach lucrative markets in the Arab world.

"We deeply regret this unacceptable incident and we share in the high feelings prompted in Saudi Arabia and more widely in the Arab world,"

said Jacques Rummelhardt, a foreign ministry spokesman, who blamed "a technical error".

CFI said the mistake happened at France Telecom, the state communications agency, which feeds more than 80 French television programmes a day to satellites around the world, including Arabsat. France Telecom has taken responsibility for the error and has launched an investigation.

Brazil lawless police join strike

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GLOBAL CLAIMS PROCESS TO IDENTIFY OWNERS OF DORMANT WORLD WAR II-ERA ACCOUNTS

Today, as part of a new, expedited claims process, the Swiss Bankers Association is publishing the list of all known World War II-era dormant accounts of non-Swiss individuals. This initiative will be administered by an international board of trustees and supervised by the Swiss Federal Banking Commission and the Independent Committee of Eminent Persons ("ICEP") chaired by Paul Volcker that was established to identify dormant accounts of Holocaust victims.

- ☐ The claims process is clear and simple. No fees are involved.
- ☐ The published list contains all known dormant Swiss bank accounts opened by non-Swiss customers before the end of World War II. A separate list of individuals who hold powers of attorney to these accounts is included to provide additional information.
- ☐ A list of all World War II-era dormant accounts of Swiss citizens will be made public in October. If any additional accounts are identified by the ICEP audit, they also will be made public.
- ☐ Because some accounts were held jointly and some account holders granted powers of attorney to others, there are more names listed than actual accounts.
- ☐ Ernst & Young, the international accounting organisation, will help individuals to submit claims in connection with the published list. Ernst & Young has set up contact offices in New York, Tel Aviv, Sydney, Budapest and Basle.
- ☐ An international panel of independent arbitrators will evaluate claims under relaxed standards of proof.
- ☐ Claims to published accounts will be resolved as soon as possible with a deadline of one year.
- ☐ The Swiss banks are committed to using unclaimed Holocaust-era funds for humanitarian or charitable purposes.

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 Braun, Lina, Schillingheim, F
 Bräunel, Walter E., New York, USA
 Braunwald, Jean, Schillingheim, F
 Bredow, Edith M.O., Bonn, D
 Breitel, Edgar, Sélestat, F
 Brest, Gaston, Mulhouse, F
 Brest-Dufour, Raymond and Jeanne, Rueil-Malmaison, F
 Brewster, Elisabeth Imogen, Firenze, I
 Breynt, Georges and Jeanne, Paris, F
 Briand, Jacques Pierre Victor, Paris, F
 Briceanu, Christ, Brussels, B
 Brisset, Paul and Juliette, Paris, F
 Broca, Jean, Megève, F
 Broch, Laura, USA
 Brochhaus F.A., Leipzig, D
 Brod Dr., Isidor, Vienna, A
 Brodsky H-Jakob, Hohenbuchen, D
 Brolis, Antonia, Bergamo, I
 Brubaker, Robert S., CH
 Brückner, Leonard, Zirmdorf, D
 Brun, Robert, Bratislava, SK
 Brunel, Elise, Nîmes, F
 Brunner, Luise, Vienna, A
 Brustlein, Ch. Ms., Mulhouse, F
 Brylinska, Madeleine, Hericourt, F
 Büchi, Elise Louise, D
 Buehler, Edith, Dornbirn, A
 Buergi, Ernest, Berlin, D
 Bulough, John Martin, Haisall / Omlitnik, Lanc, GB
 Bündi, Richard, Buenos Aires, RA
 Burchard, Friedrich, Moscow, RUS
 Burdin, Henri, Besançon, F
 Buresch, Karl Maria, Feldkirch, A
 Buschmann, Paul, Leipzig, D
 Cabiglio Dr., Bernardo and Elise, Trieste, I
 Casetani Di Bassiano, Marguerite, I
 Cairol, Giovanni, Schwyz, CH
 Calik, Uroš, YU
 Calafé, Y. Adroer, Ana and Ignacio and Jose O., E
 Calderon, Francisco, Madrid, E
 Caracoly Di Brienza, Berchen-Sten, Agathe, F
 Carey, Anna, London, GB
 Carmen Societate Anonima Romana Pentru Transporturi IntMaritime, Bucuresti, BG
 Carni, Elisabeth, Jona, CH
 Carneiro, Issus, Manuel, Schmirikon, CH
 Carnot, Jean
 Carrard, Paul, Neuilly-sur Seine, F
 Carrel, Maria, CDN
 Carver, Antonio, and Clotilde, Lyons, F
 Carter Co. SA, Rome, I
 Cascardi, Francesco, I
 Cattanzari, Raphael, Loco, I
 Cattaneo Dr., Bregnano-Milanese, I
 Caubet, Renée and Louis, Paris, F
 Cárnik Dr., Boetvill, SK
 Chalbard, Y Errazquin, Manuel, St Jean De Luz, F
 Chanayoux, Léon and Thérèse and Antoinette, Toulouse, F
 Chambre, Jeanne, Paris, F
 Chamelet, Jeanne, Montréal, CDN
 Chapulut, Michel, Grenoble, F
 Charesouchin, Aron Henri Arkady, St Petersburg, A
 Chastel, Germaine, Paris, F
 Chaudry, Alfred and Anne and Pierre, St Albain, F
 Chevains, Maurice, Chalou Sur Saône, F
 Chevre-Alby, Wanda, Ruzhla, D
 Chizov, Marie, Lvorno, I
 Chizoyanaki, Iphigene, Athens, GR
 Ciampi, Angelo, I
 Cibiel, Ernestine, Grasse, F
 Clapes Bayer, Jella, Barcelona, E
 Colmarized, Hans Jakob, Chicago, USA
 Colmarized, Ludwig and Rosa, Frankfurt, D
 Colmarized, Wilfried
 Collis, Eugene, Vincennes, F
 Colts, Yves-Jacques
 Commerce Universal Establi, Salvador, EL
 Concreto, Salvador, Paris, F
 Connor, Elsa, London, GB
 Conrad, Carla Valérie Lilli, F
 Constans, Paul, Cugy, F
 Constantinescu, Lydia, Bucharest, RO
 Constantinescu, Marie, Bucharest, RO
 Constantinescu, Nicolae N., Bucharest, RO

Cosserat, Jacques and Pierre, Amiens, F
Courtial, Eugénie, Valence, F
Courtial, Rudolf, Frankfurt-Nieder-
Erlenbach, D
Coutlis, Louis, Shanghai, China
Couturier, L., Paris, F
Coxon, Edouard, Lyons, F
Coxon, André, Lyons, F
Crepelle, André and Georges, Paris, F
Cresciz, Jean and Madeleine, Paris, F
Créten, O., and G., Brussels, B
Créten, Robert, Aristide, Bois D'Amont, F
Crethus, O., and G.
Czudak, Milivoj, Zagreb, HR
Crosset, Helene, Milan, I
Cruz, Antonio, Heerbrugg, CH
Curé De La Métropole, Chambéry, F
Cymbalista, Elia, Jerusalem, I
Cyprien-Fabre, Marcel and Lucienne,
Marseille, F
Czerklawski, Pawel, Warsaw, PL
Czuchi, Eberhard, Dusseldorf, D
D'Amphern, Michel, Meyrueis, F
D'Andigne and De Langue Marquise, Olivier,
Paris, F
D'Armagnac, Marguerite Marie, Paris, F
D'Arnaud De Pouydraguin, Louis Marie
Gaston and Jean Marie Arnaud, Paris, F
D'Orville, Renée, Paris, F
Dall, Jørgen
Dallet Dr., Rafad, Bielsko, PL
Danes, Arthur, Prague, CZ
Darial, Madeleine, F
Darragh, John, Belfast, IRL
Datssezelet, Marie, Nice, F
Daubron, Henri, Paris, F
De Acevedo, Maria Adelia, Buenos Aires, RA
De Bardi Baronesse, Adeleonde De
Bourbon, CH
De Bellecrose, Georges, Paris, F
De Bertran De Vaulx Vicomtesse, Thérèse, F
De Bizien Du Lézard, Guilleminette, Playben, F
De Blouay M.A., Marakech, MA
De Bondeli, Albert
De Boyss Des Egaux, Leon and
Marie-Louise, F
De Chasseoloup-Laubat, Louis and Marie
Louise, Paris, F
De Chateaufumeu Nouthsaria, Bovenden, D
De Chavagnat Comte, Xavier-Moulin, F
De Chomel, Edis, Marseille, F
De Costantini, Franklin
De Crescenzo, Carlo
De Dorlodot Baron, Albert and Charles,
Horeffe, B
De Escoriza Y Aurrecoechia, Viuda De
Remes, Maria Joaquina and Ines Nemesia,
San-Sebastian, E
De France, Henri, St Chamond, F
De Galindes, Meude, Paris, F
De Glattigny, Comtesse Josson, J. and L.,
Paris, F
De Gouvea, Nabuco
De Gregori, Guiseppe, Genoa, I
De Guichen-Villard, Comtesse, Paris, F
De Jannée, Bertrand, Paris, F
De Jong, Zog, F
De La Rochechauloud: Marguerite, Plessé, F
De La Sablière, Marguerite Marie Anna
Louise, Benodet, F
De La Tour Maubourg, Anne-Louise Marie,
Paris, F
De Lauffe La Marquise, Charlotte, F
De Luppé De Cesse Brissac Vicomtesse, Anne
Marie Mathilde Jeanne-Comtesse, Arles, F
De Maillard, Pierre and François and Marie
Caroline, St Loup, F
De Malet Comtesse De Ténouarn, Madeline
Marie Pauline, F
De Marisy, Paris, F
De Martinez, Maria, Cuarenta Fanegas, E
De Matas De Nicolaou, Luisa, Barcelona, E
De Menthon, Franc, Bernard Marguerite
Marie, Nancy, F
De Montory, Hélène, Paris, F
De Naumory, Jean, Metz, F
De Palma, Raffaele, Milan, I
De Potestad, Maria Eugenia
De Rodat, Adrien and Fides and Gury, Olempe
par Rodetz, F
De Rougemont, René, Paris, F
De Saint-Marc, Henri and André, Fondacrol
par Calviac, F
De Saligne-Fénelon, Hélon and Jean, Paris, F
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De Talhouet, Comte and Comtesse Alain, F
De Tanfani Di Montalto, Emilia, CH
De Vaufréland Vicomte, Louis
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De Vogue, Jean, Paris, F
De Vultich, Douchan Pierre Paul et
Antoinette and Vladimir Antoin, Paris, F
De Yberra Y Lasso De La Vega, José Maria
De Zubiria Y Gamica, Carmen, Bilbao, E
Deceides Dite Rousselet, Jeanne, Paris, F
Defferes, Georges Joseph and Hortense
Jeanne Ghislaine, Marquignies par Ressons
Sur Mats, F
Défiant, Paul, Montpellier, F
Del Solar Y Maestre, Amparo, E
Delaplace, Fernand and Eugène, Paris, F
Delcayre, Maurice-Albert and Roge and
Marie-Louise, F
Delegation Du Japon, CH
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Dellavedova, Angela, Tikano, I
Dennettie, N. Yussysky
Dennet, Werner, Cologne, D
Dengler Dr., Dietry Speyer am Rhein, D
Denis Louise
Dennexy, Emilie, Winnipeg, CDN
Denzig S., London, GB
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Les-Bains, F
Desbrière, Laure, Marseille, F
Desjain, Jean, Bordeaux, F
Desjhay, Karl Friedrich, Budapest, H
Deschamps, Stefan B., Veszprém, H
Dest, Albert, ROU
Deibold, Klaus, Aalen, D
Diedrichs, Germain, Buenos Aires, RA
Dietrich, Paul
Ditz, Bernhardine, Constance, D
Digne, Valérie, Liège, B
Dimkel, Alfred
Dittmar, Alfred, Leipzig, D
Dittmar Dr., Eugen and Marie, Bad
Kissingen, D
Dobrovic, Georges, Paris, F
Donat, Joseph, Fontaine sur Saône, F
Donnet Johannes and Janis, Riga, LT
Dörings, Gottfried and Margarete,
Cologne-Vippers, D
Doutres, Pierre and Jacques
Drach, Josephine, Vienna, A
Drabon, Johann, H
Dray Leon, Monte-Carlo, MC
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Dryfus, André B., Paris, F
Dryfus Silvan and André, Besle, CH
Dryfus, Sylvain, New York, USA
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Duchet, Emilia, I
Duché, Marie A., All

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Du Chaland, Amelie, Le Chaland par Bujaleuf, F
Du Temple Comie De Rougemont, Godefroy Charles, F
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Dubois De Henry Marie, F
Dubosson, Marie, New York, USA
Dubreuil, Emmanuel and Cécile, Evry, F
Duchosal, Louis Blaise, Bourg Vinc en Salaz, F
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Duez, Eve, F
Dufourcq-Lagelouse, Lucien and Marie-Rose, Paris, F
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Dupré, Lucien, F
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Durand, Berthe, Paris, F
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Eberstaller, Maria, Vienna, A
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Eder, Hans, CH
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Egger, Konrad, Gottmadingen, D
Ehrhardt, Kate Louise, Gundersheim, D
Ehrmann, Willy and Flora, Ansbach, GB
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Eisendle Dr. Richard, A
Eisenstaedt, Felix, Skole-Croedlow
Eismann, Karl, Constance, D
Eisner, Edith, BR
El Rabadi, Johanna, Feldkirch, A
El-Khayat Dr. Mohamed Rashad, Vienna, A
Elikofer
Elkann, Judith, Montbéliard, F
Eller, Alois, Langstaus, F
Emine, H., Tehran, IR
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Engelson, Libo, Riga, LT
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Epa Europäische Patentanstalt, Schaan, PL
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Erias, Carlos, St Gallen, CH
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Ernst, Gertrude, Vienna, A
Ernst Dr. Lucy H., Zurich, CH
Escarrazia E Ippina, Antonio, E
Eser, Hermann, Munich, D
Etablissements John Kinsmen S.A.R.L., F
Europäische Marketing, Schaan, PL
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Feenders Dr. Hugo, Emden
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Fehlmann, Jean, Mulhouse, F
Fehring, Helmut, D
Feigl, Rudolf, Vienna, A
Felling, Charles Emil, San Francisco, USA
Feldstein, Clara and Avram, Bucharest, RO
Fenner, Peter and Maritette and Patricia, Venezuela, YV
Fernandez, Fernando Escalante, Madrid, E
Ferrère, Marie Valentine and Marguerite Maria and Maurice Guillaume, Algiers, DZ
Fest, Nicola, Cairo, ET
Feiz, Edwin, Lustenau, A
Ficacci Dr. Luigi and Irine, Rome, I
Ficarra, Filippa, Rorschach, CH
Filol, Marcel and Marguerite, Paris, F
Finaz, Madeleine, Paris, F
Fischer, Emma, CH
Fischer, Hermann, Paris, F
Fischer, J. M., MEX
Fischer, Marie, Mulhouse, F
Fischer, Marie H., Alexandria, ET
Fischer, Robert, Paris, F
Fischer Dr. Max, Stuttgart, D
Fischmann, Norbert, Munich, D
Fitz, Tusi, Vienna, A
Fischel, Pauline and Georges, F
Fischfeld, Jeanne-Fanny, Neuilly s/Seine, F
Fischmann, Paul, New York, USA
Foa, Marco and Hélène, Rome, I
Foch, Marguerite, Paris, F
Fock, Nadine
Förster, Boris, London, GB
Fossard, Albert, Paris, F
Frammel Dr. Fritz, Ludwigshafen, D
Franc, Lucien Antoine and Denise Marie Marcelle, F
Frank, Helmut, Balingen, D
Frank Dr. Michael, Belgrade, YU
Frank, Doris and Dagmar
Frankel, Karl J., Amsterdam, NL
Fraternale, Pietro, Montecatini, I
Freire Ferrer, Eugenio, Barcelona, E
Frelon, Madeleine, Nice, F
Frey, Francesco, Florence, I
Friedel, Anna, Masevaux, F
Friedel, Auguste, Cernay, F
Friedman, Rejla, Lodz, PL
Frigge, Othlie, D
Frisch, Albrecht, Schramberg, D
Froehlich, Otto, Zagreb, HR
Frübe, Gertrud, Nollingen, D
Fuchs, Elsa, Bad Schandau, D
Furlaud, Maxime, F
Fürst, Fritz, Bzenec, CZ
Gadgetsowsky, Alexander, Wiesbaden, D
Gafencu, Blanche
Gaillard, Paul, F
Galan, Maria, Rorschach, CH
Galiciet, Albert, Evian-les-Bains, F
Galiciet, Jean Marie Eugène and Frédérique, Evian-les-Bains, F
Galinski, J. Mr., Szamotulny, PL
Gall, Louis, La Roche Condon, F
Gall, Robert, La Roche Condon, F
Galli, Franz and Paula, Caransebes, RO
Galli, Simone, Bressano, I
Galliot, Henri and Hélène, Besançon, F
Gamara, Cesar, E
Ganzl, Clementine, Feldkirch, A
Gang, Robert, Singen, D
Gang, Rosa, Hinterzarten, D
Ganshof Van Der Meersch, Georges and Marie-Thérèse, Brussels, B
Garcia, Juan, Rorschach, CH
Garcia, Maria-Luisa, Rorschach, CH
Garric, Huguette-Madeleine-Marie-Amélie, Garm, Max
Garnic, Pierre, Agon, F
Gassart, Jean Claude
Gasser, Marie, Spülz, F
Gather, Herbert, Mettmann, D

Gaucher, Louis and Blanche Joséphine, Paris, F
Gaulther, Madeleine, Calais, F
Gazola, Alessandro, San Remo, I
Geler, Bruno, Asosa, I
Geissbühler, Ernst, Brussels, B
Gemuseus, Hans R., Genoa, I
General Chartering, Schaan, PL
Geoffroy, Philippine, Aleppo, SYR
George, M.R., Washington D.C., USA
Georgescu, Elena, Ploesti, RO
Georgescu, Elena Gr., Ploesti, RO
Georgi, Rudolf and Marie Thérèse and Carl and René, Berlin-Zehlendorf, D
Geraerts, H M L, Cl Hapert, NL
Gerhard, August, Strasbourg, F
Gerhard, Wolf, Harbin, GB
Gerodetti, Hanna, Luino, I
Gerschl, Lucien, Levallois-Perret, F
Gerspach, Hermann, Wyhlen, D
Geslin, Alfréd, Paris, F
Geyer, Wilhelm Jun., Augsburg, D
Gheorghiu, Mihai, Bucharest, RO
Ghiu, Ulderico, Bogonasco, I
Gimeno, José, Gari, E
Girani, Louise, Paris, F
Gios, Paul Emile and Louise, Ancerville, F
Glückinger, Hildegard, Hohenems, A
Glücksthal, Ludwig, Budapest, H
Godet, René and Jeanne, St. Adresse, F
Goetz, Jonathan and Maria, Strasbourg, F
Goetz, Walter, London, GB
Gohn, Heinz, A
Goldman, Barney, USA
Goldstein, Berek, Warsaw, PL
Goldstein Dr. Oscar, Voloska, HR
Goleminoff, Avxemy, CH
Gollmayr, Rosmarie, Lustenau, A
Gomez, Juan, Madrid, E
Gomez, Louis and Jeanne, Lyons, F
Gonzalez, Angéles, Rorschach, CH
Gonzalez, Luis, Maria, E
Gonzalez, Frank W., USA
Gordon, Frank W., USA
Gottwald, Georg, CH
Gourdon, Charles, St-Mandé, F
Gourdon, Jeanne, St-Mandé, F
Gowdy, Willard, Pearisburg Va, USA
Goy, Germaine, Paris, F
Grasel, Rudolphina, Vienna, A
Grasset, Marie, Montpelier, F
Greffkes, Ferdinand, Berlin, D
Greig, L.L., London, GB
Griese, Leopold, Lodz, PL
Grigorlan Dr. Corneliu, Bucharest, RO
Grisel, Prosper and Madeleine, Neuilly, F
Grivart De Kerstrat, Paris, F
Grossbart, Otto, Riga, LT
Grosselin, Joseph and Jeanne-Madeleine, St-Germain-en-Laye, F
Grossmann, Rudolf and L. and Charles Jean, Rodolphe, Austin, Texas, USA
Grosz, Armand, Paris, F
Grube, Hermann, Dantzig / Gdansk, PL
Grubne, Max, Oberbayern, D
Grünfeld, Else, Nice, F
Grüninger, Günther Peter, Stuttgart, D
Grunder, D
Gsell, Peter, Josef, Kempten/Allgäu, D
Gualta Sanchez, José, E
Guarise, Anna, St Gallen, CH
Gubisch, Waldemar, Berlin, D
Gubeli, Eugen, Marietta, USA
Gubeli, Joseph Friedrich, North, USA
Guetachow, Clara, D
Guggenberger, Fritz, RO
Guichard, Antoine, F
Guillot, René
Guillaume, Claire, F
Guilleminot, Hélène, Paris, F
Guillo, Jules Louis and Andrée, Paris, F
Guillot, Gabele
Guinebeau, Francisque, Vienna, A
Günther, Mundhenk, Hameln, D
Gut, Theo, F
Guth, H., Cairo, ET
Gubierrez, Salinas Francisco, Mels, CH
Gutman, Josef, A
Guynemer, Julie, Paris, F
György, Alexius and Renée, Paris, F
Haag, Gergette, Paris, F
Haag, Julius, Vienna, A
Haag, Marie Albertine, Ingwiller, F
Hachette, Bernard, Paris, F
Hägg, Jakob, F
Hahn, Anton and Paula, Offenbach, D
Hain, Blanca, Vienna, A
Hainque De Saint-Senoch, Hubert, Paris, F
Haff, Robert and André and Bertrand and Bruno and Liliane and Marie Claire, Paris, F
Hailin, Leib, Bucharest, RO
Haller, Marie, Le Malak St-Averbia, F
Hanauf, Fintin, Marie Therese, Vienna, A
Hanauer, Samson, USA
Hansa, Ernst, D
Harari, Edgar
Hartmann, Dr. Jost
Hauke, Gertrude, New York, USA
Haupt, Adolf, Svitz, CZ
Havilio, Saul, Buenos Aires, RA
Hebertot, Jacques, Paris, F
Heck, Rudolf, Rheinfelden, D
Heene, Erich and Rosa, Vienna, A
Heidegger, Peter, Vienna, A
Heidegger, Babetta and Amalia, Hohenegg, D
Heidenreich, Hans and Wilma
Heinemann & Dymal Soc. Pour Construc-tions, Tchern, IR
Heinze-Linders, Alb and Mathilde, Wiesbaden, D
Held, Hans, Pretzfeld, D
Heldwein, Johann, Uffing, D
Heller, Joseph, Desin-Podomokly, CZ
Helmreich, Georg, Würzburg, D
Hemmer, Amidou Jules, Schilligheim, F
Henkel Dr. H., Paris, F
Henninger, Joséphine Marie and Henriette and Jean David, Haguenau, F
Henry, Cyril Bowdler and Dorothy Mildred, London, GB
Hentsch, Karl H., Berlin, D
Hermannstädter Allg. Sp. Bravos, RO
Herold, Sophia and Waldemar, E
Hermann, Kurt, Leipzig, D
Hertel, Hedwig, Abondio
Herz, Susanne Beate, Zurich, CH
Herzog, W.A., Dresden, D
Herzog Prof. Dr. Hans, Berlin, D
Hess, Thomas
Heymann, Anna, Dresden, D
Heymann, Ernst, Frankfurt, D
Hildebrandt, Karl Georg, Oberkaufungen, b/Kassel, D
Hilditch, Susan, Le Sentier, CH
Hillemeier, René and Ernst, Mulhouse, F
Hiller, Hans, Constance, D
Hirsch, Bertha, Frankfurt, D
Hirsch, Marie, Buenos Aires, RA
Hirt, Theophile, Mulhouse, F
Hus, Alois, Rheinfelden-Beuggen, D
Huson, Marie, J
Hocke, Walter, Grossersaen, D
Hodgkin, T. Ellet and Mathilde C., T

Hodler, Hans Peter, Guemar, F
Hochstetler, Louis, Brumath, F
Hof, Eduard, CH
Hofbauer, Erich, Maria Enzersdorf, A
Hofmann, Alfred, Dussburg, D
Hofmann, Eugénie, Vienna, A
Hoirer „De Kowalski“, Joseph
Holzer, Edward, Davos, CH
Holl, Charles, F
Hollas, Helmut G., Prague-Bubenec, CZ
Hombberger, P., Lima, RA
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Hopp, Erna, Düren, D
Horn, Richard, Vienna, A
Hornat, Denise, Lille, F
Horvath Dr. Gabriel, Budapest, H
Horviller, Simone Brunette, F
Horwitz, Hilary, ZA
Horwitz, Marie, Vienna, A
Houdaille, Léon Charles and Jean René, Paris, F
Hrynyszak, Michaela, Berne, CH
Huart Y Benit, Ana
Hubert, Josp and Luni
Hudry Frères, F
Hunger, Leo, Paris, F
Hutt Dr. Charles, Colmar, F
Iglauer, Stefan, Zagreb, YU
Ikeda, Haruo, J
Illovy, Gustav and Ota, Prague, CZ
Imbert, Paul and Pierre, Paris, F
Imprimerie De La Lettre Enveloppe, Paris, F
Indig, Dr. E
Iniguez De Montoya, Maria Victoria, San Sebastian, E
Isarescu, Uliasse and Sofia, Bucharest, RO
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Ito, Kozo, J
Itzin, Paul, Riga, LT
Iwanicki, Stanislaw, Warsaw, PL
Izaguirre Y Zuazo, Piedad, E
Jacquinet, Pierre and Marguerite
Jaffroy, Charlotte Jeanne and Jeanne Eléonore, Toulouse, F
Jaggi, Johann, USA
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Jaksic, Antica, St Gallen, CH
James, George William Carr, Anglet, F
Janmot, Norbert, Domaine De Bertaud, F
Jannez
Japy, Edgar, Paris, F
Japy, Fernand and Albert, Beaucourt-Belfort, F
Jaris, Milicent, Poynterspotteridge, GB
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Jauneaud, Marcel, Mettray, F
Jeger, Peter, USA
Jegli, Fritz, D
Jenner von, Marie
Jenni, Charlotte, Temperley - Buenos Aires, RA
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Jimenez Y Rosado, José, E
Job, Paula, Milan, I
Jochum, Mathias, Augsburg, D
Joest, John, Olan, DZ
Johnson, Georgia M., Emeryville, USA
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Jordan, F.W., Wald b/Solingen, D
Jourd-Pastre, Frédéric, Paris, F
Juchert, Luise, Berlin, D
Jucker, Hans, CH
Judet De La Combe, Albert
Jula, Giuseppe, Rorschach, CH
Jung, Emilie, Schilligheim, F
Junghans, C.W., Berlin, D
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Kainer Prof., Margret, Berlin, D
Kallenbach, Carl, Constance, D
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Kammer Bröder Textilindustrie Ag, Budapest, H
Kammerer, Emma, Malmö / Karlsruhe, S / D
Kampmann, Ernest, Strasbourg, F
Kampmann, François, Strasbourg, F
Kampmann, Susanne, Berlin, D
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Kappeller, Emil and Laura, Lübeck, D
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Kay, Louise, Kansas, D
Kazak, Fuad, Berlin, D
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Kengelbacher, August, I
Kernstok, Gina, Budapest, H
Kerschbaum, Imhild, Mariastell, A
Ker, August, Wallbach, D
Ker, Gerhard, Wallbach, D
Kessin, Dublin, IRL
Kessler, Pierre, Saillau, F
Khatar, Ghassan Toufic, I
Kiebler, Andreas, Losburg, D
Kiefer, Thekla, Pflüdingen, D
Kien Dr., Georges and Antoinette and André, Strasbourg, F
Kiene, Wilhelm, Eisenach, D
Kieninger Dr. Georg, Dantzig / Gdansk, PL
Killy, Hilda, Rheinfelden, D
Klein, Charles and Marie, Bischwiller, F
Klein, Jean and Olga, Sarrebourg, F
Klein Dr., Arthur, Buenos Aires, RA
Kliche, Martha, Berlin-Niederschöneweide, D
Klimwieder, Josef, Lustenau, A
Klinovsky Jan, Bratislava, SK
Kloppe, Willy, Berlin, D
Klotzsch, Adolf and Frieda, Constance, D
Kneisel Dr. G., ZA
Knock, Katharina, Cologne, D
Knott, Rudolf and Hilde, Rio de Janeiro, BR
Kobi, Eduard, Rostov-na-Donu, RUS
Koch, Georg, D
Koch, Katharina, Dreieich, D
Koch, Othmar, Zagreb, HR
Kochlin, Pierre Charles Emmanuel, Paris, F
Koelliker, Guido, Milan, I
Koernig, Karl, Vienna, A
Koepfer-Kenneth, D
Koernig, Hilda and Anna, Kraft Pies Esten, F
Kolossa Lubka, Milano, I
Koller, Erna, Hohenems, A
Kosmowsky, Xenia, Paris, F
Königswinter Inc. H.M., New York, USA
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Kral, Karel, Prague, CZ
Kral, Leopold, Zlm, CZ
Kramer, Oskar, London, GB

Krämer, Ingeborg, Reiferscheid, D
Kratzel, Albert, D
Krausz Dr. Leo, Neuilly s/Seine, F
Kress, Eleonora, D
Kretz, Rolf
Kreuter, Adolphe M., Strasbourg, F
Kriek, Dr. Otto, Vienna-Reichenau, A
Kroci, Nikola J., Dugirar, HR
Kroneberg, Lucie, Yekaterinbourg, RUS
Krüger Dr. Karl, Merano, I
Krukowski Prof. Dr. W. and H. Lviv, PL
Krummenacker, Elise, London, GB
Krupica, L., Feldkirch, A
Kubler Dr., Conrad
Kudler, Fritz, Constance, D
Kuebler, Julie, Stuttgart, D
Kuhn, Louis and Augusta, Colmar, F
Kunen Dr., Aug., Rheinfelden, D
Kunz, Jean and Rose, F
Kunze, Johanna, Berlin, D
Kurfess, Emma, D
Kurmik, Ludwig, Berlin, D
Kurz, Josef, Paris, F
Kytzia, Josef
Labesse, Georges, St. Chamond, F
Labordère, Marcel and Jean and Marie and Luglin, Paris, F
Ladstätter, Peter, Paris, F
Laedrich, René, Paris, F
Lagier, Georges, Johannesburg, ZA
Laharrague, Léon, Biarritz, F
Lassé, Eugène and Claire, Paris, F
Lal, Mohan, Paris, F
Lambert, Jean
Lambert, Raoul
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Lamp Dr. Karl, Innsbruck, A
Lampe + Co., St Petersburg
Lamy, Germaine-Marie, Paris, F
Landt, Kurt, Berlin-Schöneberg, D
Landmann, Colomba, D / I
Landmann & Sohner H. Ab, Stockholm, S
Landsberg, Richard and Hedwig, Cologne-Braunsfeld, D
Landurn, Marie, USA
Lang, Paul, Paris, F
Lange, Fritz, Milan, I
Langendorff, Franz I. and Margot, Berlin-Charlottenburg, D
Langmartsang, Wachuck Samten, Rickenbach, CH
Lanza Filingeri, Maria, Palermo, I
Lanza Filingeri, Stefano and Amalia, Palermo, I
Laporte, Marie-Louise, Meaux, F
Lardier, Hélène, Giromagny, F
Laric, Vilko, Maribor, SLO
Larochette, Adrien, Roanne, F
Larrea Y Celayeta, Antonio, E
Larthe, Daniel, F
Laruelle, George-Louis and Marie and Roger, Paris, F
Lasser, M., Bilbao, E
Lassing, Josef, Hohenems, A
Laubacher, A., Prague, CZ
Laube, E., Zurich, CH
Laucella, Cornelia, Les Bieus, CH
Laudon-Aguillon, Marie, Marseille, F
Laur, Paul, Shanghai, China
Laurent, H. and J. and S., F
Layzer, Albert, Montreux, F
Lazarovic, Todor
Lazarus-Waag, Mathieu, Lausanne, CH
Le Blant, Robert
Le Guillou, Jeanne Marie, Nantes, F
Le Vaillant De Glatigny Vicomte, Jean De Gibon, Paris, F
Leauté, André, F
Leauté, Henriette, F
Lebe, Gertrud, Strasbourg, F
Leblanc, Lucie, Paris, F
Ledaier, Caroline, Munster, F
Lederc, André, Epinal, F
Ledermann, Anna Maria, Paris, F
Ledoux, Octave, F
Legoux Arsène, Pontarlier, F
Lehmann, Franz B., D
Leitao, Jaime and Maria, Lisbon, P
Lejoff, Marguerite, Buenos Aires, RA
Leclud, Henri and Bernard, Valdoie, F
Leonhardt, Jeanne, D
Lervitzky De Aglaide, Bucharest, RO
Lespabel, Brussels, B
Lessmoellmann, Thea, D
Lestang, Paul and Thérèse and Solange, Orléans, F
Leutelt Dr. Helmut, Shenyang, China
Levi, Jeanne and Berthold and Renaud and André and Jean-Claude and Pierre and Marianne, Paris, F
Levy, Clara, Dantzig / Gdansk
Lewin, Max, Zurich, CH
Levy, Isaac, London, GB
Lichtenstern, Max, Zagreb, HR
Lienbacher, Johann, Graz, A
Lindauer, J., Paris, F
Lindenberg, Luise, Cologne / Munich, D
Linsin, Karl, Rheinfelden, D
Linhner, Josef, St. Maddalena, I
Lipmann, Ernst, C
Lippe Zur, Seine Durchlaucht Prinz Hermann, Budapest, H
Liquornik, Albert, Bucharest, RO
Llorente, Maria, I
Loer, Heinrich, Vienna, A
Loiseau, Anne Marguerite, Evry, F
Lomsky, Karl, Prague-Hodkovsky, CZ
Lorenz, Odette, Aleppo, SYR
Lottier, Alice, Stuttgart, D
Lova, Stefan, Budapest, H
Luvizino-Fornino, Angelo, I
Luchsinger, Enrico, Bergamo, I
Lückemann Prof., Wrocław, D
Luit, Coloman and Irene Marie, Budapest, H
Lundgren, Guilhemmo Alberto, BR
Lupas, Nicolas, Bern, CH
Lupu, Basile, Iasi, RO
Lussenhop, Martha
Lutt, Enrico, Ludesch, A
Lux, Adolf and Frieda, Constance, D
Maatschappij Voor Industriele En Finance, Amsterdam, NL
Macé, Etienne and Odette, La Haye-Fossard, F
Macherette, Carlos, Diepoldsau, CH
Macius, Silvio, CH
Mackiewicz, Zygmund, Post Janova, LT
Madero, Hector, Rome, I
Madrenas, Jaime, Saarbrücken, D
Madurga Val, Mariano, Zaragoza, E
Magazin Universal, Chisinau, Moldavia
Magnan, Amélie and Gabrielle, Marseille, F
Magnan, Raphaél, Marseille, F
Magyar, Irene, Covassna, RO
Magyar, Selma and Regine, Kaliningrad, RUS
Maier, Albert, Venice, I
Maier, August, D
Malavalle, Joseph, Marseille, F
Malin, Magnus, Feldkirch, A
Malivour, Marie-Thérèse, Rosières en Santerre, F
Mallot, Heinz, Cologne, D
Mamoun El-Him, Mohamed, Berlin, D
Manasteriotti, Eledoro, I
Mangelendorff, Katharina (Käthe), Berlin, D

Maniere, Paul C., Quimper, F
Männerchor Eintracht, Rheinfelden, D
Mansbach, Gerda, USA
Manher, Elsa, Vienna, A
Marchena, Comie Ernest and Comtesse Jeanne, Paris, F
Marcu, Alessandro, Bucharest, RO
Marcuse, Julius, Brussels, B
Mark, Frank, Nallaha N.Y. USA
Martin, Alys, GB
Martinez Sierra, Gregorio, Cuernavaca, E
Marzin, François, Croissy, F
Mase, Kintaro, J
Masson, Maurice and Eugene and Suzanne
Masson, Pierre Frederic, Anitres, CH
Mastromarino, Carmine, Buchs, CH
Mathelin-Moreaux, René, Paris, F
Mathern, A., Artemore, F
Mathus, Kurt, Hoechst, A
Mathews, Philipp Selwyn, Heris, GB
Matthias, Moritz, Wrocław, SK
Maurer, Jean, Jouro, F
Maurer, Emil, Nancy, F
Mauring, Arved, Riga, LT
Mauthner, Nelly, Paris, F
Mavrocordato, N.J., Bucharest, RO
May, Paul M., New York / Detroit, USA
May, Percy B., Devon, GB
May, René, New York, USA
Mayer, Heinrich, Kronberg / Taunus, D
Mazel, Marcel, Paris, F
Mazzoli Menotti, Giuseppe, Sofia, BG
Mazzoli Menotti Son Excellence, Joseph, Sofia, BG
Meier, August, Paris, F
Meier, L. Sydberg, Paris, F
Meier, W., Bludenz, CH
Meise, Waldemar, Rheinfelden, D
Meisner Y Bernado De Queros, Mercedes, Madrid, E
Mendaro Y Romero De Ybarra, Maria Josefa
Mendel, Nancy, Alexandria, USA
Menghini, Luigi, Rorschach, CH
Mengler, Françoise, Paris, F
Menten Dr., Erneshe, Warmond, NL
Merced Du Paly Marquis De Clam, Versailles, F
Merlan, Ida, USA
Merlau, Alfred, Berlin, D
Metzger, Eugen, New York, USA
Meyer, Christiane, Strasbourg, F
Meyer, E.O., Strasbourg, F
Meyer, Erika
Meyer, Michael, USA
Meyer, Otto, New York, USA
Meyer, Paul, Rouen, F
Meyer, Paul, London, GB
Meyer, Rolf F., Baden b/Vienna, A
Meyer-Berlin, Nite, F
Meyhofer, Fida, Amsterdam, NL
Meyeringh, H.G., Peine, D
Meynial, Henry, Paris, F
Mezey, Viorika, Vienna, A
Mezière, Victorine Susanne, Nice, F
Michel, Richemond Georges and O. (Ms) and Marguerite and Germain and Gerorgette, Mulhouse, F
Michelehn Dr. Michel I., Faltenci, RO
Michl, Darlo, Vienna, A
Miedrich Dr. Franz and Elisabeth, Duisburg, D
Miella, Helena, Warsaw, PL
Milicic Dr. Josp Sibe, Beograd, YU
Milleff Dr., Dimitri, Budapest, F
Milleron, Eugène and Marguerite, St-Aubin, F
Millet, François and Jeanne, Neuilly-sur-Seine, F
Mincoff Dr., Nicola, Sofia, BG
Minichshofer, Ernst, Füssach, A
Mock, Elise, A
Moels, L. St. Sauveur, F
Moghadam, Léon, Kabul, AFG
Moholy, Ladislau, Berlin Charlottenburg/London, DGB
Moitroux, Jakob Hubert, Bruxelles-koelberg, B
Moll, Carl and Anna, Vienna, A
Möllinger, Josef, Bad-Krozingen, D
Moncey, Genevieve De, Paris, F
Moncorge, Charles Roger, Roanne, F
Monget, Marie, F
Ménius Dr., Munich, D
Montel, Violetta La Baronne, Rome, I
Moos, Dominik, Bensheim a.d. b / Nankos, D / F
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Mora, Anacleto
Morasso, Giovanni, Genoa, I
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Morel De Foucaucourt, Henri, F
Moreno, Daniele, Rome, I
Morris, Elisabeth, New York, USA
Mortara, Giuseppe and Franco, Bologna, I
Mosaules, Rata, Budapest, H
Moscatelli, Luigi, Pura, I
Moscona, Henry and Henriette, Bucharest, RO
Moser, Adolf, Zurich, CH
Mosmann, Alice, Zurich, CH
Moskovic, Felix, Ljubljana, SLO
Mouliet, André, Nice, F
Mouliet, Madeleine, Nice, F
Moulin, Marie, Lyons, F
Moyat, Antonin, Chalon s/Saône, F
Mueller, Alfred, Offenbach, D
Mueller, Anna Hedwig, London, GB
Muersch, Ernest and Elisabeth, St-Marie aux Mines, F
Müller, Alfred, Samois, F
Müller, Carol, Bucharest, RO
Müller, Emil, Liverpool, GB
Müller, Eugen, Helsingfors, FIN
Müller, Fritz, Esslingen A N., D
Müller, Josef, Constance, D
Müller, Karl, Berlin-Charlottenburg, D
Müller, Trude, Salzburg, A
Munch, Adolf, YU
Mundt, Gustav, Berlin, D
Munk, Klaus, Reutlingen, D
Munnich, Plona V. Sestina, Debreccan, H
Nagel, Rudolf, D
Nagu, Nicolaus, Budapest, H
Nagy, Ladislau
Najman, Nikola, Belgrade, YU
Natkey, Maurice, Bern, CH
Nauveau, Jacques Henri Olivier and Pauline Marie Désirée, Angers, F
Naumann, K., Zurich, CH
Neculitz Von Demeter, Costina Judet Suceavo, RO
Neubauer, Paula, Teplice Sanovitz, CZ
Neumayer Rudolf, Feldkirch, A
Neurath, Elfriede, Vienna, A
Neusel Sel, Paul, Luz, A
Nice, Maria, Frankfurt, D
Nicolas Gomez, Antonio and Alvaro and Luis and Mathilde and Carolina and Gabriela and Dolores, Barcelona, E
Nicolopoulos, Georges, Athens, GR
Nicolopoulos, Nico, Athens, GR
Niederkorn, Andre, Metz, F
Niersen, Albert
Nirurker, Annie, NL

Niffenegger, Ernest
Nikolich, Pedrag, Shipley, GB
Nilsson, Ragna, Salsjöbaden, S
Nobel Dr., Larlo, H
Noe, Helene
Nostinger Paul and H., Nancy, F
Noguera, Clementina, Porto, P
Noguer, François and Marie-Thérèse, F
Nouradomkian, Souren
Novak, Wanka, FL
Novo-Lory (Hortie), Marie Louise Joséphine, Marselle, F
Nv Nederlandse Maatschappij, Amsterdam, NL
Oberlander, S., Melbourne, AUS
Obrotshava, Aglaida
Ogneanoff, Savka, Sofia, BG
Offier, Yvonne and Avator, Paris, F
Olivas, Jose, Rorschach, CH
OmniFrance SA, Luxembourg, L
Opelinska Dr., Helene, Sroda, PL
Oppenheim, Uwe Emil, Budapest
Opreacu, Georges, Geneva, CH
Osio De, Rosario, F
Oseman, Babiker A., Iddah, SA
Oswald, Adolf, Rheinfelden, D
Osterm Y Huarte, Rafael
Ott, Camille, F
Ouvareff, Catherine, Geneva, CH
Pacetti, Antoine, F
Pache, Catherine, Lyons, F
Pagniez, Madeleine and Paul, Calais, F
Palaminy De Marquis, Frédéric Marie Samuel
Palm, Cazes s/Garonne, F
Palvay, Václav, Prague, CZ
Panier Mgr., F
Panic, Milos, CH
Papadopoulos, Konstantinos, Athens, GR
Papazian, R. and Ebror, Paris, F
Pardany, Eduard, Budapest, H
Pardick, Vera, Buchs, CH
Pardon, Robert, Paris, F
Pars, Louise, Paris, F
Pariser Dr., Käthe, Berlin-Charlottenburg, D
Pariot, Marguerite and Marcelle, Nancy, F
Parrmann, William J., Michigan, USA
Parnegg, Hermann
Parnegg, Leopold
Paschoud, F. Ms
Pastouloff, Catherine, Geneva, CH
Patak, Gisela, Buenos Aires, RA
Paul-Albert, Eugene and Marie, Paris, F
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Perrizet, Elsa, Mulhouse
Perl, Rosa, Liepaja, LT
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Perry, Martin, Berlin, D
Petcoff Dr., Polco Dobroff, Sofia, BG
Peter, Freda, C., Paris, F
Peters, Viktoria, Bilbao, E
Petigard, Edmond and Raymond and André, Paris, F
Petriani, R.I., Paris, F
Pfiffer, Walter, Feldkirch, A
Pflüger, Edmund, A
Pfleiderer, Yolanda Maria, Sao Paulo, BR
Pfothauer, Eleonore
Pfiffer, Georg, Paris, F
Picard, Céline, Belfort, F
Piédilivre, Louis, Paris, F
Pilik, Marie, Ithava, CZ
Pillik, Marie, CZ
Plasser, Franz, A
Plat Dr., Pierre, Châteauroux, F
Poirier, Marie-Antoinette, Bourgoin, F
Polacek, Josef
Pollner, Alejandro, RA
Pollitzer, Bartholomäus, Bucharest, RO
Polak, Aleksander, Belovar, HR
Polo, Ramona, Saragoza, E
Pommery De, Jeanne
Pommery De, Joseph and Genevieve, Dienhouari, F
Pons Carreras De Riera, Margarita, E
Popendicker, Gudrun
Popoff Dr., Nikola, Sofia, BG
Porret, Ennquetta, E
Portius, Karl, Berlin, D
Porte, Henri and Henrie, F
Pospisil, Francesco, Turin, I
Prager, Raymond, F
Prang, Marthe, Colmar, F
Pransitz, Friedrich, Cologne, D
Prati, Josephine, Lodi / Milan, I
Prats, Carmen, Valencia, E
Predovic A.D., Belgrade, YU
Preis, Harold, Vienna, A
Prestopino, Felice, Cairo, ET
Prodanof, Christy, RO
Prodon, Anna, St. Chamond, F
Prodon, Paul, La Bruyère-Jezoux Loire, F
Probst, Georges and Germaine, Paris, F
Prossner, Hans-Henrich, Diepoldsau, CH
Privot, Marianne-Alice, Sceaux, F
Przepecka, David, D
Fugin, Albert, Paris, F
Pupol, Thomas, Nauriv
Puiot, Thomas, Buenos Aires, RA
Queipo De Llano Y Fernandez, M., E
Quist, Bent, Nykøbing, DK
Rabinovici, Samuel, Bucharest, RO
Radegonda, Anne-Marie, Bois d'Amont, F
Radulescu, Ella, Bucharest, RO
Raffi Fu Costantino, Argentina, Trieste, I
Ralling, G St.H., GB
Ramos Pinto Da Cunha, Otilia and Maria Amelia Rosa and Maria Isabel and Goncalo and Christovao and Alfredo, Villa Nova De Gaia, P
Rando, Simon, Lyons, F
Raschkoff, Georg W., Razgrad, BG
Rat, Michael, Geneva, CH
Rat, Erika, CH
Raud, Franz, Rankweil, A
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Ravenet, Berthe, Giorgio Maggiore, I
Ray, Joseph, Paris, F
Reber, Peter, Rheinfelden, D
Reber, Wilhelm, Frankfurt a.M. / D
Rei, Vincenzo, Le Sentier, CH
Reinhold, Mignon
Reinke, Helene Ueberlingen, D
Reisinger, Herbert, A
Reiter, Hubert and Helga, Hanover, D
Remanis, Julius-Theodor, Riga, LT
Remanis, Julius-Theodor, Riga, LT
Remond, Henri Edmond, Roche Sur Royon, F
Remond, Julie, Mansio, F
Remouard, Jané and Catherine, St. Cloud, F
Reusser, Alfred, USA

Moskovic, Klara
Müller, Klara
Müller-Aeschl, Berta
Münch, Heinrich Karl
Mündt-Lange, Gertrud
Mylius, Jaques Simon
Nagy, Adele
Nagy, Margarethe Leopold
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Nikolitch-Heller Dr., Marianne
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Oberländer, Erica
Oberländer, Frank
Oberschall, Victor
Obertr di Valnera Dr., Giuseppe
Obutschewna, Aglaïda
Ogneanoff, Alexander
Ohland, Gustav
Osolin, Alexander
Padanyi, Rosa
Parmentier, Thérèse
Patzdold, Erna
Patzdold, Franz
Pavia, Gaston
Perben, André
Perdrizet, Georges
Perdrizet, Jean-Paul
Perez, Hidalgo Antonio
Perrollaz, Gabrielle
Persky, Anna
Piechnick, Gerda
Piédolibève, Renée
Pigallet, Jean
Plaquetant, Jeanine
Pogany, Miklos
Posatti, Hilde
Post, Bruno
Prodanof, Elvira
Proskauer, Max
Prynal
Rast, Käthi
Rebes, Hildegard
Rhein Dr., Marcel
Ricca, Amalia
Richier, Mira
Riegelmann, Olga
Riera Clariana, José Maria
Riesen, Anna
Rignuzzi, Carolina
Rivasseau
Rochelin, Maro
Rolla Rosazza, Vitale
Rosenthal, Ella
Rosenthal, Paul
Roussélet, Charlotte
Ruch, Michel
Ruedy, Josef
Rümmelin, Hilda
Rundi, Kurt
Runge, Hans
Sack, Otto, Georg Johannes
Sacrest Dutoi, Pedro
Salantowitz, Mirjam
Schäfer, Eugen
Schaumburg Graf, Heinrich
Schellhaues, Lisée
Scherenberger, Anna
Schile-Graz, Jekka
Schmitt, Arvida
Schmitt, Robert
Schumilow, Wladimir
Schoen, Alfred
Schrief Dr., Karl
Schulzer-Rothausser, Margarete
Schulz, Hans
Schwarz, Marie
Schweizer, Franz
Seib, Bonastre, Francisco
Senkoff, Serge
Serrano Sumar, Ramon
Serrano Sumar y Polo, Fernando
Serrano Sumar y Polo, Francisco
Serrano Sumar y Polo, Jaime
Serrano Sumar y Polo, Josefine
Serrano Sumar y Polo, Pilar
Serrano Sumar y Polo, Ramon
Sgallitzer, Helene
Sierstorff Gräfin
Simic, Svetozar
Simon, Alexander
Singer (Jugoslawische Kreditanstalt A
Slavko
Sriedze, Liliya
Squire, Dorothee
Stanesco, Jan
Stalesco Prof., Constantin
Staub, Aug. E.
Staub, Emilie
Staub, Pauline
Stefanova, L.
Stolle & Kopke
Sloopmann, Ekey
Swolensky, Ella
Tatos, Maria
Teltsik, Rodolphe
Testaz, Georges
Thalmayer, Alfred
Thannner-Jehli, Marie
Thon, Karl Albert
Thöne, J.J.
Travers, Jean
Travers, Léon
Travers, Rosalie
Treca, Albert J., M.-C
Treca, George-Ch.-L.-M.-J.
Trog, Hans
Trollett, Louis
Ugo Delle Favare, Silvia
Vajda, Eel
Vermes, Bella
Vernizes, Gyula
Vesely Dr., Jan
Victor, Louis Pierre
Vogl-Oberhäuser, Maria
von Botz, Alexius jun.
von Avenarius, Alexander
von Dreblich-Wichter, Vally
von Murald, Franz
von Ow-Weiss, Anna
von Weiss, Lisl
Vonderweid, Alfred
Wald, Erwin
Waldermeyer-Wirtz, Cécile
Walzer, Rodolfo
Weber, Rosa
Weill, Albert
Weill, Alexandre
Wendland-Billert Dr., Charlotte
Wendling Dr., Joseph
Werner, Anneliese
Willemín, Francis
Willemín Dr., Denis
Witkider, Marguerite
Wirth, Helene
Wolkerswisch, Paul
Yvir, Marie-Anne
Zehn, Viktor
Zöllner Dr., Eugen
Zollan de Gazon, Gertrud
Zu Eke Graf, Jakob
Zu Eke Gräfin, Marie
Zu Lok

Jewish groups condemn Swiss secrecy

By Stephen Farrell

HOLOCAUST survivor groups last night welcomed the Swiss banks' decision to publish details of accounts dormant in their vaults since the Second World War, but deplored the 50-year delay.

The full list of 2,200 names worldwide, including 40 Britons, is published in *The Times* today after the Swiss Bankers' Association (SBA) dropped its policy of secrecy over numbered accounts.

Albert Roux, 61, the British-based chef, plans to check with his 84-year-old mother in France after learning that the name "Roux, Albert F." appears on the list.

Relatives seeking to trace the missing assets of Nazi victims are invited to submit claims through contact offices set up in New York, Tel Aviv, Sydney, Bucharest and Basel.

In all, the property stolen in the Holocaust is estimated to be now worth up to £4 billion. The SBA last night refused to comment on the total but is expected to reveal details in Zurich today.

Yesterday the Holocaust Education Trust said that only a handful of people had contacted its telephone hotline after learning of the decision to publish. Janice Lopatkin, for the trust, said: "This is likely to prove a very emotional search for Jews everywhere. But so far we have no definite claims."

Among those Britons applying to the Swiss is Fiona Goetz, widow of Walter Goetz, the wealthy *Punch* and *Daily Express* cartoonist, illustrator and art collector who died in September 1995 aged 83. Mrs Goetz, 59, yesterday learnt for

the first time that the name of "Goetz, Walter, London, GB" is among the 15 columns of names identified on the "Global Claims Process".

Goetz and his parents fled Germany in the 1930s, but she believes a wealthy relative may have left money in an account. The difficulty for her, as with thousands of other families on the list, will be to prove the link.

She said yesterday: "I would be very interested to discover if it is our family. There were very few people of that name in Britain at the time. Walter had his own Swiss bank account and I do not think it could have been his parents, but it could have been another relative. We just do not know," she said last night.

Greville Janner, chairman of the Holocaust Educational Trust, praised the initiative but said that it contrasted with the "obstructive and evasive" approach of the banks in the past. He said: "I hope this exercise helps to return some of the millions of pounds in the Swiss vaults to their rightful owners, but why the secrecy until now? If banks had ever seriously looked for the owners then they would have saved years of suffering for thousands of people. For many it is too late."

However, the SBA said: "This is the best possible guarantee of finding people who have a right to these assets. We hope to find as many of the account-holders as possible. The ideal is to find them all."

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Nazi gold was 'passed through Vatican'

From Tom Rhodes in Washington

CONTROVERSY centred on the Vatican yesterday after a previously secret American government communiqué said the Catholic Church in Rome was used as a postwar repository by Croatia's Nazi puppet Government for about \$500 million (£80 million) plundered from Serbs and Jews in the Balkans.

The recently declassified Treasury Department memorandum appeared to provide the first credible evidence of Vatican complicity in the handling of gold taken from Holocaust victims and held on behalf of the fascist Ustasha Government after the Third Reich's fall. Its contents were swiftly denied by the Vatican.

Sent from Emerson Bigelow, a Treasury agent, to Harold Glasser, director of monetary research at the US government department in Washington, the document stated that the Ustasha removed \$500 million from Croatia after the war.

"Of the funds brought from the former independent Croat state, where Jews and Serbs were plundered to support the Ustasha Government in exile, an estimated \$500 million were impounded by British authorities at the Swiss frontier," reported Mr Bigelow.

"The balance of approximately \$500 million was originally held in the Vatican for safekeeping."

The agent said that, according to rumours, a considerable portion of the gold coins stored in Rome had been sent to Spain and Argentina through the Vatican's "pipeline".

He concluded: "But it is quite possible this is merely a smokescreen... [and] that the treasure remains in its original repository." The document, dated October 21, 1946 and released by the National Archives in Washington, was yesterday viewed as both important and authentic by Jewish organisations.

Joaquin Navarro-Valls, the chief Vatican spokesman, said yesterday: "These reports have no basis in reality."



Max, a 440lb gorilla, recuperates at Johannesburg Zoo after he was shot six days ago by a burglar who jumped into his enclosure to escape the police. Max has had numerous get-well cards from South African children

Britain close to victory on BSE controls

From Charles Bremner in Brussels

BRITAIN seemed close last night to winning its fight to force continental states to apply strict anti-BSE methods in its slaughterhouses, a move that would avert a threatened ban on European beef imports.

Jack Cunningham, the Agriculture Minister, said he was cautiously optimistic that enough ministers would support a request by the Commission for a regulation requiring all potentially risky material to be removed from the carcasses of animals before sale to consumers.

This would spare Britain the need to act against meat imports. Belgium among others appeared to be moving towards the Commission's view that tougher rules were needed.

The resistance of Germany and seven other of the European Union's 15 states would be enough to reject the Commission's proposal that abattoirs should remove all so-called "risk material" before beef, sheep and goat meat is sent for human consumption. The material is mainly the brain, spinal cord and the spleen. Britain says its consumers could be at risk from beef imported from countries that do not apply the full anti-BSE treatment.

Dr Cunningham told EU colleagues yesterday that he would have no alternative to seeking parliamentary backing for a ban on all beef that is not subject to the stringent treatment. "I am on very strong grounds in European policy terms and in safeguarding the health of the British people to do exactly that, and that's what I will do," he said.

Brussels officials gave a warning, however, that Britain would be breaching EU rules if it imposed a unilateral ban, and could face proceedings in the Court of Justice, Germany, which insists that it has no native cases of BSE, argues that it is unnecessary to apply a remedy for a disease that does not affect its livestock.

Survey shows lax abattoir regime

By Michael Hornsby
Agriculture Correspondent

ONLY two countries in the European Union, Ireland and Portugal, enforce abattoir controls against "mad cow" disease which meet British standards fully, a survey by *The Times* shows.

Most member states have no requirement for removing so-called "specified risk materials" from cattle carcasses before these are sent from slaughterhouses to butchers' shops and meat-cutting

plants. In Britain abattoirs remove brain, eyes, spinal cord, spleen, thymus, tonsils and intestines, which have all been identified as potential carriers of BSE, bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

Britain is unique in the number of its cattle that have died of BSE: more than 167,000 since 1986. But seven other EU member states have reported a total of 321 cases of BSE, only 28 in cattle imported from Britain.

Ireland has reported 217 cases of BSE, 12 in cattle imported

from Britain. Since April of last year abattoirs have removed the same list of "risk" organs as in Britain.

Portugal (67 cases), seven in cattle imported from Britain. Since December of last year abattoirs have had the same BSE controls as followed in Britain.

France (27 cases), all in home-bred cattle; removes brain, spinal cord and eyes from all cattle over six months old, but takes thymus, tonsils, spleen and intestines only out of cattle either born or imported before July 31, 1991.

Germany (five cases), all in cattle imported from Britain; no risk materials are removed. The Netherlands (two cases), both of UK origin. Since March has removed cattle brain, eyes, spinal cord and spleen but not thymus, tonsils or intestines.

Italy (two cases), both said to be of UK origin. No removal of risk materials by abattoirs. Denmark (one case), said to have been imported from Britain; no removal of risk materials.

Stamp abandoned

By Tunku Varadarajan and Susan Bell

BOWING to Canadian protests, France has abandoned plans to issue a postage stamp commemorating the 30th anniversary of the 1967 visit to Montreal by Charles de Gaulle, during which the

French President called controversially for a "free Quebec". The stamp, to be issued this month, has been "postponed indefinitely", according to a spokesman for the French Post Office. De Gaulle's utterance "Vive le Québec libre!" is seared into the imagination of most Canadians.

Mafia arsenal seized by police in Sicily raid

From John Phillips in Rome

SICILIAN police yesterday swooped on a Mafia arsenal, seizing a cache of heat-seeking rocket-launchers and anti-tank grenades and arresting six people. The raid was hailed as another major blow against the beleaguered "soldiers" of the Cosa Nostra.

As many as 500 police and paramilitary Carabinieri supported by helicopters and sniffer dogs took part in the raid on an abandoned farm building near the village of Misilmeri, 12 miles from Palermo, the Sicilian capital. The Soviet-made rocket-launchers and anti-tank grenades were buried with grenades, detonators and AK47 assault rifles.

Giancarlo Caselli, the Palermo Chief Prosecutor, said the arms had been hoarded to carry out an assassination attempt on an "excellency", from the Italian state.

Police sources said that all six people arrested belonged to a Mafia clan headed by Benedetto Spina, 63, who is on the run. They said Signor Spina was a faithful supporter of Bernardo Provenzano, the elderly, reportedly ailing mobster, who is the last don from the feared Corleonesi clan to remain alive and at liberty.

Signor Spina is sought by police on charges of having ordered the kidnapping and killing two years ago of Pietro Lo Bianco, a mafia boss who was the ruling crime patriarch in Misilmeri until his death.

Colonel Corrado Borruso, the commander of the Carabinieri paramilitary police in the Palermo region, emphasised the lethal capacity of the anti-tank grenades, which are lightweight and can pierce any armour. He said the weaponry was a sign that Italian authorities should not lower their guard as Italy prepares to record the murder in 1992 of anti-Mafia judge Paolo Borsellino and his predecessor, Giovanni Falcone.

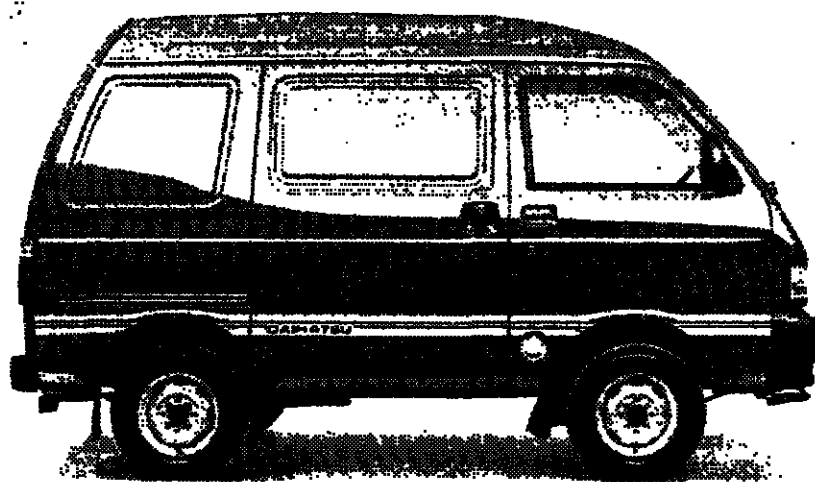
The crackdown is the latest in a series of hauls of underworld weapons confiscated by Sicilian police over the past 18 months.

There were persistent reports that the former Mafia boss Giovanni Brusca — known as "the Beast", because of his cruelty, which included throwing a nine-year-old boy into a tub of acid — had disclosed the whereabouts of the arsenal. Brusca was arrested last year in one of a rash of arrests of senior mafiosi that brought the Cosa Nostra to its knees.

The successes in Sicily were welcome relief for the Government of Romano Prodi, the Prime Minister, which last weekend was forced to send 200 soldiers to the Neapolitan suburb of Caserta to bolster 500 conscripts sent only a week before to Naples to try to curb a wave of murders by the Camorra, the Neapolitan version of the Mafia. The Camorra has killed more than 85 people in and around the Naples region since the start of the year.



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A life sharpened on the edge of modern India

To consider the life and work of Nayantra Sahgal is to consider the history of modern India. As the niece of Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of independent India, she was born into a grand and prominent family, belonging, she says, to the bourgeoisie spawned by British rule. As Brahmins, the highest caste, they were accustomed to achievement; indeed it was intrinsic to their identity.

The family patriarch, Motilal Nehru, was an enormously successful barrister. His mansion was the first property in Allahabad to have electricity and water; many of its ornate furniture and fittings were imported from Europe. Motilal called it Anand Bhavan (Abode of Joy), and it was home to several generations of his extended family. In his memoirs, Jawaharlal Nehru remembers the house resounding with his "father's tremendous laughter".

But everything changed when national and family history collided. Galvanised by Mahatma Gandhi's call for a non-violent struggle for independence, the Nehrus embraced civil disobedience with a radical energy. Renouncing any notion of worldly aspiration, they became fiercely ascetic. The mansion was donated to the trenchant nationalists of the Congress party and any British furniture was ceremoniously burnt as Motilal, his son Jawaharlal and son-in-law, Ranjit Pandit (Nayantra's father), were radicalised by the cause.

In the years leading up to independence, Jawaharlal and Ranjit Pandit spent years in prison without trial, victims of the British campaign of arbitrary repression. Pandit contracted pleurisy in jail, dying in 1944 — a victim "of his last imprisonment". Nayantra says: "Freedom was the great driving force of the era. The family took the destiny of the country to be its own, and so everything else was put aside, including private life. My father died for the right of his country to be free. These things change you."

From infancy, she understood the sacrifices demanded of her: she was forbidden to eat English food and wore only *khadi*, a coarse Indian hand-woven cloth, from which even her handkerchief was made. She describes her childhood as a period of a thousand small difficulties. "When I was at school I was jealous of the girls who wore pretty silk dresses — *khadi* was so rough and uncomfortable. My handkerchief used to bruise my nose. But I knew that wearing

Nehru's niece remembers what her family sacrificed for freedom. Interview by Jason Cowley



Nayantra as young woman: "remarkably beautiful"

this material was part of our identity as a family. Wearing *khadi* was as much a political statement as refusing to rise when 'God Save the King' was played in a public place."

But there was a deep ambivalence in the family's attitude towards the British. "As a family we admired much about the British: way of life — the literature, belief in liberty, the courage, the cricket, the stiff upper lip," she says. "We straddled two cultures: we were deeply embedded in our own but we were also part of British culture. Jawaharlal was educated at Harrow and Cambridge; my father did his training for the Bar in London, and I spent four years at university in America."

"The irony of colonial rule was that the British were not tyrants, although they could behave tyrannically; they had a flourishing democracy at home and introduced Indians to what she refers to as "the

grandeur of the Magna Carta" and the great works of liberal philosophy. But the absurdity, she adds, was that "a Western education sowed the seeds of our dissatisfaction. There is in English culture a commitment to freedom, tolerance and self-expression. How could they expect Indians to read works espousing these notions without being changed by them?"

Nayantra was devoted to her uncle. When she was in adolescence he wrote to her from prison, begging her with words of support. His conviction blazed. "Prepare yourself to play your part, with a strong body, a sensitive mind that is keen as the edge of a sword and a character that is wedded to high ideals."

She played her part through her eight novels and political commentary, exploring the dilemmas and complexities confronting an emerging nation. To her, Nehru remains a model of tolerance and civility. She is moved that he showed no bitterness to the British people, despite his suffering, drawing an "important distinction" between the people and the mechanics of colonial government. She says: "He was a great parliamentarian and absolutely committed to a sense of fairness. His daughter, Indira Gandhi was an either/or person, but Nehru wasn't like that: he saw all these shadings in between."

Nehru's relationship with Edwina, wife of Lord Mountbatten, the last Viceroy, remains the subject of endless discussion (his wife, Kamala, died when she was only 37).

That they had a relationship is not in doubt: in their book and BBC series about the family, *The Dynasty: the Nehru-Gandhi Story* (Penguin £7.99), Jad Adams and Phillip Whitehead describe how Edwina took a bundle of Nehru's letters wherever she went, intimate and playful, full of expressions of devotion.

"They were absolutely devoted to each other and formed a deep emotional bond," Nayantra says. "There is speculation as to whether their relationship was sexual. What I can say is that Nehru was a normal man, he liked women, although he was not given to sexual escapades in youth or later. He also spent ten years in jail, and when he was Prime Minister he mostly worked 14-hour days, so it wasn't easy to have a private life. He was, though, an extremely attractive, sensitive man; women were drawn to him. Perhaps we should leave the last word to Nehru himself: in his memoirs, he wrote, and I paraphrase, that sex played its role in my life, but not a very big role. Perhaps it was the same with Edwina." She is surely right: Edwina spoke of the relationship — tolerated by Mountbatten, who admired Nehru — as "mostly spiritual".

In 1978, Nayantra published *Indira Gandhi's Emergence and Style*, a hostile study of her cousin's politics and weakness for nepotism. In particular, she condemned the suspension of democratic rule under Gandhi's imposition of a state of emergency in 1975. She saw the act as a betrayal of Nehru's legacy, his vigorous commitment to "the people's right to choose".

"Power changed Indira," she says. "To say that Nehru introduced a political dynasty is a misnomer: it was absolutely the obsession of Indira. It is terribly important to understand this. I wrote my book out of a sense of political duty, not as a personal attack."

Indira, though, felt betrayed and humiliated, and became increasingly isolated from her cousin, to whom she was once devoted. "She couldn't understand that you could criticise her politics but still consider her a loving member of the family. She did terrible things during the Emergency and her obsession with her succession was a mortal disaster."

There is passion in her



Nehru and Edwina: she took his letters everywhere

voice, the passion of political duty, of what one can unfashionably call a sense of *noblesse oblige*. At 70, she has a fragile beauty. She moves with an easy, fine-boned grace. Her husband, Dehardun Sahgal,



Nayantra Sahgal: "The family took the destiny of the country to be its own, and so everything else was put aside"

is a retired civil servant; she has two adult daughters, Nonika, who lives in Delhi and Gita, a film producer working in London; her son, Ranjit, is a businessman based in Italy.

"There is speculation as to whether their relationship was sexual"

"She really was a remarkably beautiful young woman," recalls her close friend Randolph Boxall, a retired barrister with whom Nayantra is staying on a visit to England to collect an honorary doctorate

from Leeds University. "She had this rare combination of beauty and intellectuality that took your breath away."

As she looks back on a life on the edge of history, her regret is that India, that vast nation of 880 million people and 15 languages, remains divided. She is haunted by the trauma of partition, by the massacres that followed that event, the sectarian divisions. She shares with her uncle a dream of a united India, a republic of tolerance, which, if never entirely homogenous, may thrive, at least, as a confederation of states along the lines of the proposed European model.

"I never saw partition as a good idea," she says. "The suffering involved was too great. My father gave his life fighting for the freedom of his country; my uncle's contribution to modern India is monumental. We should work again towards a new togetherness."

● The Dynasty begins on Saturday on BBC2 at 8.10pm.
● Nigella Lawson is away

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Alan Coren



■ F.D. please phone, your door has a word for you

I hope you'll agree that, during the ten years of my perching here, I have never abused the hospitality of this column: except, of course, in the liberty I take of bending ears which might be far more profitably turned to this great organ's deeper voices. I have never, that is, begged my readers help to sort out this or that, as other hacks often do, albeit in return for a magnum of Krug or a couple of tickets to Alton Park. Unable to put my finger on an elusive quotation, say, or find a good tract in Warrington, or tune my French radio to *Tout Marché Spécial*, or stop my dog eating phone-books, I have always chosen to do my own research, rather than send caring readers rushing pell-mell to the letterbox.

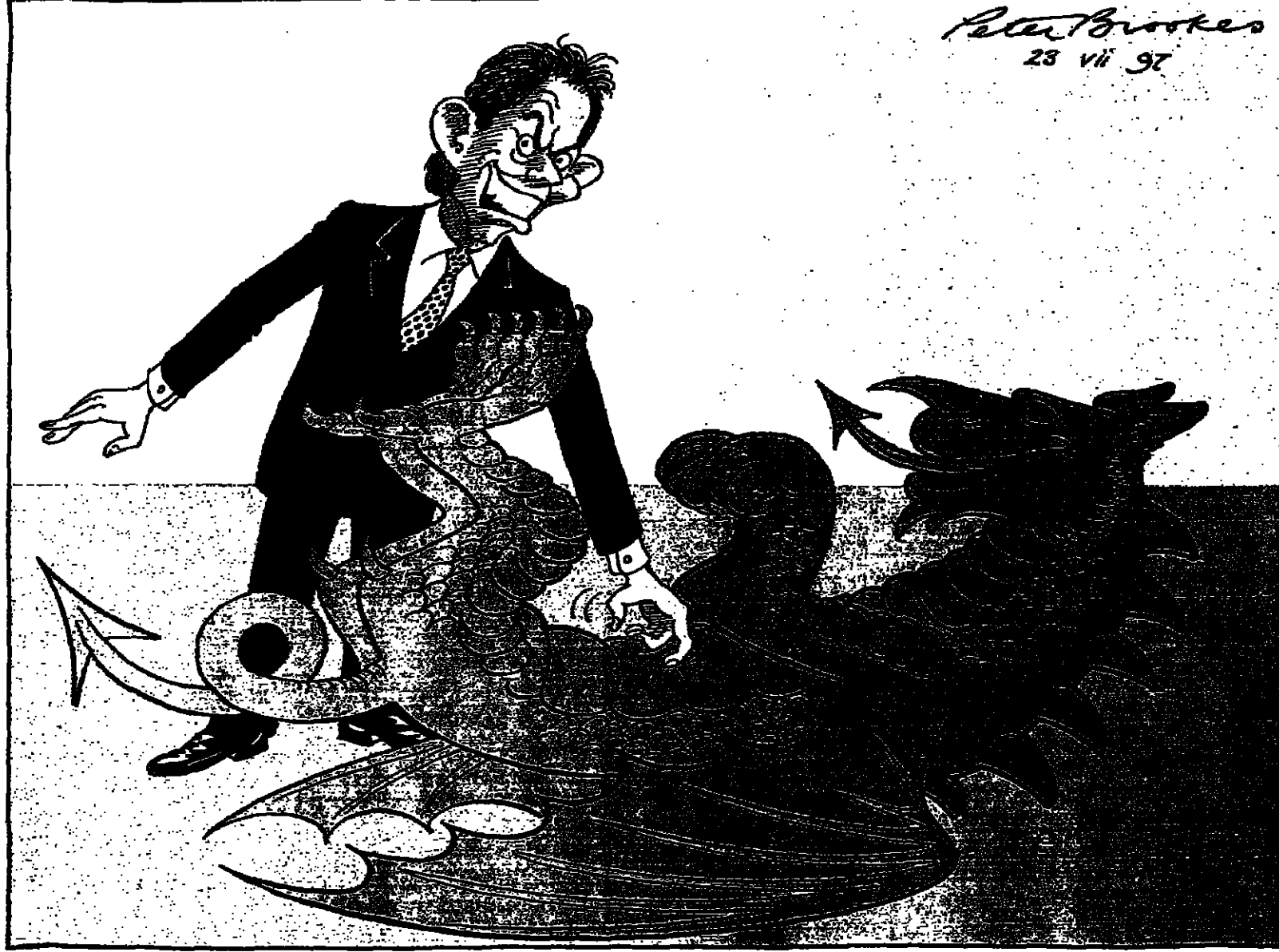
But today I'm compelled to break the resolution of a decade. I need to find out not only who Mr F.D. Morton is, but also why I have his office door, and, equally important, why that door says he's a bastard; and there is nowhere to turn for information like that except to a reader who might just have it. And if that reader happens to be Mr F.D. Morton himself, I can only crave his forgiveness for my telling the world what his door thinks of him, but urge him to write in anyway, to save my sanity. It has just occurred to me, mind, that if his door has got it right, Mr F.D. Morton may be too much of a bastard to get in touch with me by letter, but enough of a bastard to get in touch with me by fist, but that is the kind of risk all seekers after truth are doomed to run.

Another kind which one of them is doomed to run is the risk of boring witless readers whose hospitality he has already abused, by hanging on about his ship. Nobody wants to hear about his ship, they have all had ships of their own, they know about ships, they have all been awoken by things that go bump in the night and have run to the window to observe that the thing was yet another moonlit lavatory bowl which had either just appeared in their ship or just disappeared from it, and they have all then gone back to bed to lie sleepily wondering who, exactly, were these people who loped the night with lavatory bowls. Or radiators. Or mattresses. The people who have turned the urban ship into a sort of inert Robin Hood, an entrepot redistributing lavatories and radiators and mattresses from those with too many of them to those with too few.

And now mine has received a door, sometime between last midnight and breakfast: a panelled one, in cream, no knob or hinges, but garnished with three messages, two mounted professionally on little gilt plaques which say "Mr F.D. Morton" and "Knock and Enter", and a third, sprayed on erratically in black, which says "Bastard!"

I have been thinking about this all day, and got nowhere. At one end of that nowhere stands the shadowy figure of Mr F.D. Morton: what is he, that he is knocked and entered upon? A schoolmaster? A civil servant? A surgeon, even? In the middle of the nowhere stands the shadowy figure of the sprayer: what made him reach for the aerosol? Had he just been expelled, for impermissible transgressions? Had he just been kicked out of the DSS office for claiming benefit for nine aliases? Had he just left hospital with the wrong leg out off? Is it within one of these scenarios that Mr F.D. Morton's alleged bastardy lurks? Then again, there is the far end of nowhere, where stands the shadowy figure of the person who threw the door in the ship: why did he do it? He cannot be the victim of Mr F.D. Morton, because a victim would not spray "Bastard!" on a door and then tear it off and skip it, he would want to leave it there as long as possible. It cannot be the building's owners, they would merely repaint the door. And though the only other candidate would seem to be Mr F.D. Morton himself, I cannot believe, however mortified he might have been to discover his door's desecration, that he took it off and carried it through the night to my ship. A man with a gilded plaque who has to be knocked before being entered upon is surely not the sort to risk being apprehended by the Old Bill at three in the morning, carrying a stolen door with his name on it.

So I am, forgive me, forced to invite answers, on a postcard. The first correct entry will receive a door. Provided it doesn't disappear tonight.



A question of honour

Percy Cradock defends his record over safeguarding democracy in Hong Kong

Jonathan Dimbleby's book, *The Last Governor*, and related articles, (Simon Jenkins, *The Times*, July 12), contain sensational accusations against me, and others, of dishonourable conduct over Hong Kong, of betrayal of the colony, and even of treason. These are grotesque charges and will not bear serious examination. But their authors clearly mean them to be taken seriously and some answer is necessary.

The main allegation is that in the years 1984-92 officials and at least one minister conspired with China to stifle Hong Kong's legitimate demands for democracy. The facts are otherwise. Far from blocking democracy, British ministers and officials laboured with considerable success to advance it and secure its continuance after 1997. Their achievement, incorporated in the Basic Law, survives the handover for the benefit of Hong Kong, whereas the Patten changes have already been swept away, in acrimony and with lasting damage.

At the time of the Joint Declaration in 1984 there were no directly elected seats in the Hong Kong legislature. After steady pressure on the Chinese, such seats were introduced and increased. After Tiananmen in 1989 these efforts were redoubled. The main purpose of my secret visit to Peking in December 1989 was to win more such seats. The work was continued by Sir David Wilson and then Douglas Hurd, as Foreign Secretary. The result was the agreement of February 1990, ensuring an immediate increase in directly elected seats and a rising curve for more, going on into the next century. It was also understood that the legislature of 1995 would sit through the handover and carry with it a sizeable directly elected element into post-1997 Hong Kong. The famous through train, now derailed.

Nothing could be less like a conspiracy against democracy. At no time was there collusion with China against Hong Kong's interests. Instead, there was steady pressure for more liberal arrangements. But it was crucial to secure Chinese agreement, or at least acquiescence. Otherwise there was no possibility of the improvements outstanding in 1997. We had repeated and precise Chinese warnings, from 1989 on, of the consequences if we went ahead on our own; and we have recently had a demonstration of what happens when Britain and Hong Kong try to do that.

This policy of co-operating with China in the interests of Hong Kong was not

just the work of some aberrant officials. It had the backing of the whole Thatcher Government. They authorised it and, rightly, claimed credit for its results, notably the Joint Declaration and the democratisation agreement of 1990. They did not see such agreements as appeasement, a term later applied to any Sino-British accommodation.

Though inheriting this excellent base, Mr Patten insisted on a very different approach, one of unilateral action, disregarding the Chinese warnings. It backfired and brought the colony a bitter quarrel with China, worse terms for the transition and therefore less protection after 1997. It also damaged Hong Kong in the area where he

claimed to help most: instead of a through train for an elected legislature, as agreed with China before 1992, Hong Kong now has a China-appointed body. The criticism of Mr Patten is not because he tried to help democracy; it is because in the end he harmed it. Nowhere in his pages does Jonathan Dimbleby face this issue. But it is the nub of the debate. And from those responsible for this real and present democratic deficit, stories of "betrayal" in the 1980s come very strangely.

We are told in extenuation of this error that Mr Patten was not aware of crucial correspondence between Douglas Hurd and the Chinese Foreign Minister, promising continued co-operation. This is an odd story, but allowing for its truth the fact remains that he was fully aware of the Chinese warnings of the consequences of unilateral action and still decided to go ahead, no doubt calculating that they would back down. It was, at best, a wild gamble with Hong Kong's future; and it did not come off.

When the miscalculation became apparent, Mr Patten made a virtue of necessity and seemed to see himself as engaged in a holy war against China, in which any Sino-British understanding was betrayal and those who maintained contact with the Chinese were "conspiring with the enemy", to use Simon

Jenkins's words. But there was no war with China. The name of the game was securing the best future for Hong Kong. This had been recognised before 1992. Afterwards, unhappily, this objective had to take second place to attempts to score points in some virility contest with Peking.

In common with a great many others, I called on Chinese officials in my capacity as director or adviser with British firms to ask about the progress of the crisis, just as I called on British or Hong Kong representatives and on many Hong Kong public figures. Such advice as I gave, in public and private, was to gather up as much of the broken crockery as possible and, to the Chinese, to honour the agreements they had signed and to demonstrate the success of "one country, two systems" in Hong Kong. Treasonable activity? Hardly.

One visit to Peking, in April 1993, has received particularly creative treatment. It is alleged that I went there behind the Governor's back, briefed and encouraged by the Foreign Office in order to sabotage his plans. Certainly I went. As a private citizen with business interests in China I could not afford to have Peking made a no-go area. But I was not briefed by the Foreign Office. In fact it urged me not to go so as to avoid misunderstanding in Hong Kong. In order to meet official concerns I asked the Chinese to avoid any mention of Sino-British relations or Hong Kong in my discussions. To this they complied.

It is at this level of personal attack and insinuation that, it seems, one must now deal if one wants to discuss a serious foreign policy issue. The attacks are personal, demeaning and strictly diversionary. They take the eye off the central issue: why British policy over Hong Kong after 1992 went so signally wrong. They have been helped by the refusal until very recently on the part of the press to allow that there was another version of the Hong Kong story than that put about by the adherents of the former Governor.

In the same style it is alleged that in the bad, pre-Patten days, officials made secret agreements with China and sought to deceive Parliament. Certainly negotiations, for example over democracy, were secret; they had to be if there was to be any chance of extracting concessions from the Chinese and influencing the Basic Law, a purely Chinese statute. But the results were regularly reported to Parliament, and policy regularly examined in the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

The grubbier items in the charge-sheet is the claim that those who advocated co-operation with China were influenced by the prospect of commercial gain. As if one needed a directorship before seeing the damage Patten policy was doing Hong Kong. I myself was arguing for co-operation with China in the interests of Hong Kong at least ten years before retirement and any possibility of commercial work, and went on saying the same thing later, when the Government had executed a U-turn. The sole criterion, for me and all I worked with, was what was best for Hong Kong. And it is shameful, and libellous, to suggest otherwise.

So much for the charges. But a word is due to the authors. Little needs be said about Jonathan Dimbleby. He writes as his master's apologist and hatchet-man: in such roles objectivity, even accuracy, are not to be expected. In the Hong Kong context, Simon Jenkins is an even less substantial figure. The main source of the allegations seems to be the former Governor himself. This is sad. Also sad that the attacks are so wild and all-embracing. Not only his own critics, but former Cabinet colleagues, businessmen urging caution, and ambassadors and officials trying to make sense of his policies, all are sneered at, accused of disloyalty, or appeasement, or cowardice.

Admittedly, the former Governor is in an uncomfortable position. He realises that he got things badly wrong in Hong Kong. But consciousness of failure is no excuse for questioning the integrity of everyone who disagrees with him. Regrettably, Mr Patten has damaged Hong Kong by his policies. He now does himself, and the quality of the Hong Kong debate, damage by his indiscriminate and groundless accusations.

Sir Percy Cradock was Ambassador to China, 1978-83, and the Prime Minister's foreign policy adviser, 1984-92. Simon Jenkins is away.

At no time was there any collusion with the Chinese

Debriefed

WORKERS at Conservative Central Office are in a flat spin over an edit from Archie Norman, MP, their new party vice-chairman, that they should dress down on Fridays. These are men and women who sleep in their suits and get nose bleeds at the very notion of casual clothing. They are not taking kindly to being told how to dress by a man who, as chairman of ASDA, wears a badge saying "Hi, I'm Archie".

"Alistair Cooke [the former head of the Conservative Political Centre] used to let women wear trousers on Fridays," said one member of the research department, sweaty-palmed at the idea of shopping for casuals. "But all these modern management methods are getting a bit much."

They should watch out, as Norman, with the full backing of William Hague, is just getting started. At ASDA, he is not only rigorously encourages dress-down Friday, but also holds all his meetings with everyone standing up. Anyone in the open-plan offices who wants to be left to think in peace has to wear a red cap.

Perhaps best of all, the employee of the month is allowed to take the

company Jaguar home for a night to impress the neighbours, though it may be hard work getting Lord Parkinson, the party chairman, to agree to this one.

Matters are not helped by Norman's refusal of an office in Central Office. He prefers to issue his orders long-range from his



Dress sense: Norman

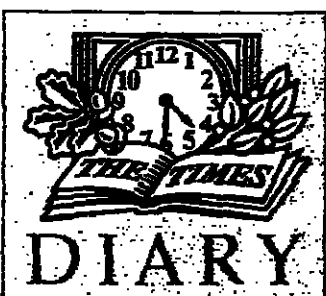
base round the corner in Abbey Gardens.

● Last to Europe is The Blood-sucker on the Rhine, a bronze medal lampooning Germany's reparations terms at Versailles. Made in 1923 by the German medallist Karl Goetz, the medal was sold for £220 by Spink, the auctioneers, in London last week, to The Museum of Leeching and Blood Letting, in Charleston, South Carolina. "It's a work of political satire," says a spokesman at the auction house. "I think the Americans took the title too literally."

Jail ahoy

TWO former rear-admirals have been appointed to head the Board of Visitors at HMP Weare, the new prison-ship moored at Portland harbour. Rear-Admiral John Croydon is to chair the board, while Rear-Admiral David Crabb will act as his number two, keeping an eye on the sea-bound crooks.

Patrick O'Sullivan, HMP Weare's Governor and a committed landlubber, is grateful to have such a wealth of nautical experience to hand. "They should come in useful," he says, "especially when we have problems with the



air conditioning or the sprinkler systems on board."

As for accusations that there is a naval cabal at work here, O'Sullivan says: "I think you will find there are simply a lot of rear-admirals in Portland."

● As John Major and his former Cabinet gather tonight for their "Last Supper", they would do well to tread gently on their arrival at the Berkeley Hotel. The Art Deco Knightsbridge hotel is a particular favourite of Sir Edward Heath, who lives round the corner and regularly takes breakfast or early evening cocktails there.

HMI visit

SUSPICIONS that Prince Harry will be going to Radley College, in Oxfordshire, next year strength-

ened yesterday with the news that the Queen will be visiting the school in November.

She will be opening a new teaching block, nicknamed "The Doughnut" because of its unusual design. This should give her a useful chance to look the place over before agreeing to send Harry there rather than to Eton. While his older brother William seems to be enjoying himself at Eton, it is not felt to be the place for Harry.

● Problems just keep mounting up for Gerry Adams, the Sinn Féin



Prince Harry: new school?

leader, whose publishing house has just abandoned all future projects. Brandon Books, in Cork, has handled all of his work, including his recent autobiography *Before the Dawn*, and his Selected Writings. Adams would fully understand the reason for the company's crisis: a high-level row over strategy.

Leading role

THE story of Jeremy Thorpe, former leader of the Liberal Party, and his relationship with the murdered male model, Norman Scott, will soon be playing to British cinemas. The film rights to Simon Freeman's book, *Rinkagate: The Rise and Fall of Jeremy Thorpe*, focusing on the 1979 court case at which Thorpe and three other men were acquitted of recruiting an airline pilot to murder Scott, have been bought up by the London company, Samuelson Productions, which most recently made the forthcoming film about Oscar Wilde starring Stephen Fry.

"We will not be casting until we have finished the screenplay," says a spokesman for Samuelson. "It is a very complex story and we'll be handling it with kid gloves."

Harvard and the Holocaust

Daniel Johnson

on an American

row about genocide

Anti-Semitism comes in many forms. While the Third Reich was annihilating European Jewry, the Ivy League universities in America contented themselves with excluding Jews from their teaching faculties. The young critic Lionel Trilling felt he had no hope of competing with the Wasps at Harvard or Yale; only in New York, at Columbia, could he land a post. Half a century later, it is high time Harvard made amends. A former deputy mayor of New York and benefactor of Harvard, Ken Lipper, has set up a chair of Holocaust studies there. But this attempt to institutionalise the study of the Nazi genocide at America's oldest and grandest university has apparently backfired. An unseemly row has broken out, which must have delighted anti-Semites who wish to insinuate that in order to teach the new subject of Holocaust studies one must be both Jewish and Germanophobic.

A disagreement is alleged to have arisen between Mr Lipper, whose munificence towards his alma mater has placed Harvard dons in his debt, and the committee responsible for choosing the first incumbent of "his" chair, the Helen Zelaznik Professorship for Holocaust and Cognate Studies. The selection committee failed to make a permanent appointment, but wanted to install a temporary professor for three years. The benefactor refused to allow this. So the chair remains, for the moment, unfilled. This everyday tale of academic folk has become embroiled with the much more serious, though no less acrimonious, scholarly dispute about the "Goldhagen thesis": that the German people, and not just a minority of Nazis, actively supported the "national project" of Hitler's Final Solution.

The only begotten of this thesis — and Mr Lipper's candidate — is Daniel Goldhagen, a young associate professor of government at Harvard. Last year he became a celebrity overnight, thanks to his first book, *Hitler's Willing Executioners*. His tours of Germany were a media circus: thousands listened respectfully as he indicted their fathers and grandfathers with genocide; the historical establishment was scandalised, but he was awarded the Democracy Prize. Did Dr Goldhagen open up a long overdue debate which the previous generation had suppressed, or did he appeal to German masochism and ride roughshod over the evidence? The jury is still out.

The man the Harvard headhunters wanted as a stopgap for their new professorship is Professor Saul Friedländer, who holds the first chair of Holocaust studies at UCLA. Though only one volume of his *Nazi Germany and the Jews* (favourably reviewed by me in *The Times* on May 29) has so far appeared, it is already clear that Dr Friedländer is not persuaded by every aspect of Dr Goldhagen's thesis. Like most other historians, Dr Friedländer thinks ordinary Germans knew a good deal about what was going on. Mild forms of anti-Semitism, even "passive complicity" in the Nazi persecution, were commonplace; but "the majority of Germans... looked the other way". They did not share the "eliminationist" anti-Semitism of Hitler and the "willing executioners" who perpetrated genocide, as Dr Goldhagen believes.

Gossips at Harvard say that Mr Lipper intended his chair to be a platform for his hero Dr Goldhagen; the latter indignantly denies it. Other candidates for the chair have rushed into print, one, Dr Christopher Browning, claimed in *The New Republic* that he had been excluded "because, unlike Goldhagen, he is not Jewish".

Such suggestions, as unworthy as they are improbable, are reminiscent of other rows in other places. A year or two ago the fracas over the Flick Chair of European Thought poisoned the atmosphere at Oxford. Michael Pinto-Duschinsky, whose article in *The Times* sparked off a debate about the ethics of accepting " tainted" funding, found himself the subject of *ad hominem* attacks.

The Harvard row places American Holocaust scholarship in a poor light and obscures the continuing need for vigilance against the revisionist backlash. One example must suffice. Last Monday the leading German daily, the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, carried a piece by one of its most distinguished journalists, Günther Giselsson, which amounted to a rant against Jewish-American organisations. The Holocaust was, the author claimed, the sole aspect of German history that was taught in American schools. This was due to the "ruthless conduct of bodies such as the Jewish World Congress [sic] and the American Jewish Committee, which he accused of funding 'demagogic' advertisements highlighting the German Government's policy of paying pensions to former SS men but not to many Jewish survivors. (In fact the pensions issue is a sensitive one which the AJC is right to criticise.) This sort of German resentment is common.

If some Germans think the Holocaust is being used as part of a Jewish conspiracy to keep Americans in ignorance about present-day Germany, then we need Mr Lipper's chair to be filled as a matter of urgency. Whether or not they have noticed in Harvard-Yard, Daniel Goldhagen is a star; I don't agree with a good deal of his book, but that it has transformed Holocaust studies is a fact no doubt. Even though it is a bad principle to let benefactors influence appointments, he would add lustre to the new chair. Harvard should think again, and appoint Goldhagen.

P.H.S.



WALES AND WESTMINSTER

Greater accountability comes at a price

Eighteen years after they overwhelmingly rejected an assembly the voters of Wales are to be asked if they repent of their decision. The arguments, and some of the advocates, will be familiar to those with long memories. But the landscape has changed dramatically since then and the ground on which the Government stands is firmer now than it was in 1979. Devolution is being offered by an administration in a position of strength, at the start of its term, possessed of a clear mandate, and intent, as a matter of principle, on a recasting of the relationship between Government and governed across a strengthened United Kingdom. At the time of the last referendum Jim Callaghan's Government was drifting and divided. It was driven to offer an assembly under nationalist pressure and without a clear constitutional vision. The polls reflect that change with clear support for an assembly, and it is more likely than not that the Welsh will get their first parliament. It is, however, in the interests of Wales 18 years from now that the price which may be extracted for that parliament is properly appreciated.

It is right, as a matter of general principle, that the administration of Wales should be placed under better democratic scrutiny. The gubernatorial style of successive Tory Secretaries of State and their reliance on quangos populated by placemen has created an appetite for reform. In a pluralist state, it is unhealthy to concentrate in the hands of the Welsh Secretary a £7 billion budget and powers to rule on education, health, training, agriculture, transport, industry and the environment. Perfunctory debate at Westminster and sporadic scrutiny from the Welsh Grand and Select Committees provide an insufficient counterweight.

The machinery of Government aside, there is also a powerful case for reflecting the growing strength of Welsh identity and the political values of a defined community in a representative body. Some of the traditional objections to an assembly are met in the

White Paper, most notably the fear that Mold and Millford Haven could find Cardiff rule as centralist in its way as Westminster has been. Regional committees should help to reflect the different priorities of the Welsh-speaking North and West as well as those of Anglicised enclaves such as Pembrokeshire and Monmouth. Proportional representation will make one-party, or one region, dominance less likely.

There is, however, potential for friction, not between Cardiff and West Wales but between Wales and Westminster. The assembly will elect its leader but Wales will continue to be represented in the Cabinet by a Secretary of State appointed by the Prime Minister. What will happen if a future Tory Welsh Secretary and the Labour leader of the Assembly disagree? How effective a champion for the assembly would such a minister want to be? Might he not be tempted to win tabloid cheers and Essex votes as a harbinger of the Welsh? Might the assembly, in order to free itself from an advocate it cannot appoint, press for the right to raise taxes?

In those circumstances, distant perhaps but far from fantastic, the pressure from England to secure a quid pro quo for devolution would grow. The White Paper guarantees the current generous level of Welsh representation at Westminster and the favourable deal from the Exchequer the Principality enjoys under the Barnett formula. Neither had been questioned while Wales was without an assembly. Can both survive unamended? Ultimately, devolution depends on the will of the Welsh people. If there is a settled and serious demand, as the election result suggests and the referendum will reveal, then politicians have a duty to try to satisfy it. But even though it is a decision for the Welsh, it has consequences for the English. Before Wales decides, in two months' time, it should be aware of what England may ask in the future, lest 18 years on the Welsh have cause to repent again.

JEWISH GOLD

Only full disclosure can now settle ancient injustices

Together with other leading newspapers of the world, *The Times* today publishes a three-page advertisement by the Swiss Bankers Association giving the long-awaited list of dormant accounts dating back to the Second World War. The list, an unprecedented break with Swiss banking secrecy, marks the most comprehensive attempt yet to trace the families or survivors of the Holocaust and end the controversy over allegations of Swiss complicity with Nazi Germany in buying tainted gold.

The move is overdue but nonetheless welcome. There has long been a suspicion that Swiss banks knowingly guarded huge sums deposited by Jews. As more and more evidence was published of the banks' wartime dealings, a damning picture emerged of their avarice, hypocrisy and moral insensitivity. Growing outrage in Jewish communities and among allied governments led to wide-ranging accusations against the banks and the Swiss in general. Reactions at first ranged from defensive anger to bewildered incomprehension. But Bern soon realised that until the accusations, even if exaggerated, were fully investigated and Switzerland confronted the moral dilemmas of its history, the country's reputation would be as tainted as the gold purchased from the Nazis.

The Swiss Government has, over the past year, made strenuous efforts to clear up this stain. It has ordered an investigation by experts into wartime dealings and agreed to co-operate with international campaigns. It has offered a huge sum to aid victims of human rights abuses, catastrophes and the Holocaust. And President Koller acknowl-

edged, in a cathartic speech to the Federal Assembly, his country's dubious wartime strategy and its subsequent ungenerous reactions. The problem, however, has been the banks themselves. The banks' action now contrasts with the obstruction and evasion which greeted needy refugees who approached the banks for their money immediately after the war. If the banks had seriously looked for owners then, they would have saved years of suffering.

The danger for Switzerland is that the campaign has now built up a momentum that is hard to reverse. The country is an easy target for those envious of its wealth and orderliness: and the gold gave detractors a glowing moral cause to add to the gibes about smug Swiss aloofness. A small industry has grown up in Swiss-bashing, and this, in turn, has provoked xenophobic reaction from a country unused to finding itself in the firing line.

The controversy will not end here. Several groups have already cast doubt on the veracity of the bankers' figures, suggesting that far more remains unaccounted for. There will also be hundreds of bogus claims, and acrimony may surround the necessary challenges and safeguards. Britain has not escaped this lingering historical row: there are well-substantiated claims that the Government used unclaimed deposits in Britain by Jews in the Balkans to compensate Britons whose property there was taken over by the communists. The full details must come out in the Nazi gold conference that Britain is to host this autumn. Full disclosure, as the Swiss banks have found, is the only way to settle these ancient injustices.

NAMES AND SHAME

Anonymity must still be retained in rape cases

Little could be more distressing than to be falsely accused of a crime as serious as indecent assault. For Professor John Cottingham, head of philosophy at Reading University, the past year must have been a horror. Even now that he has been cleared, his ordeal may not yet be over. The two women concerned are apparently planning a civil action against him.

Professor Cottingham deserves the great wave of sympathy that has come his way. University tutors are, by the nature of their work, highly vulnerable to this type of accusation. Not many middle-aged men routinely spend time with teenage girls on their own in a room. What goes on in these rooms is not often open to corroboration. So female students too are vulnerable to being preyed upon. But in this instance, the women's case was implausible from the start — more so when it was revealed that one of them had made a false accusation before.

Public support for Professor Cottingham's plight has led to suggestions that the two women be named. Like all plaintiffs in trials of rape and sexual assault, they have enjoyed anonymity. He, however, has had his name blackened. Despite being found to be innocent, it is claimed, he will never quite recover his reputation, while they will remain unblemished. Either they should be named, or defendants like Professor Cottingham should remain anonymous too. Seductive as such a symmetry appears, it carries its own dangers. The reason why

women are not named in rape trials is that having been raped carries its own stigma, however innocent the victim. It is hard enough already to persuade women who have suffered sexual assault to press charges against their assailants: the process of trial can be as painful as the original attack.

Even if women do take a case to court, only a small percentage of rape trials end in conviction. This is not normally because plaintiffs have falsely accused their attackers, but because corroborative evidence is hard to obtain. For a woman in those circumstances to be named would be desperately unfair, and would act as a further deterrent to other victims pressing charges.

Alternatively, it is suggested that defendants should be anonymous too. But the disgrace of being accused of rape is no greater than that of murder or many other serious criminal offences. Where would the courts stop? An extension of anonymity would be a move away from transparency of justice.

The body that is supposed to prevent cases as flimsy as this one being brought to trial is the Crown Prosecution Service. It seems very odd that the CPS could have gone ahead with a trial in which two women claimed to have been undressed by one man, with no force involved, and where one of the plaintiffs had already proved her unreliability. Professor Cottingham should now be allowed to get on with his job, free from any taint to his good name. It is at the CPS that searching questions deserve to be aimed.

Foreign policy to 'export goodness'

From Mr George R. Urban

Sir, In his account of Robin Cook's admirable new "ethical" foreign policy ("A Foreign Secretary to test us", July 17) John Lloyd claims that "leaders who promised to export goodness have rarely escaped mockery and disappointment. President Jimmy Carter's efforts to do so were widely seen to have failed".

Not so, Jimmy Carter's and Zbigniew Brzezinski's advocacy of "human rights" as a central issue of American and then Western foreign policy greatly accelerated the erosion of Soviet legitimacy and became a significant element in the collapse of the Soviet system and empire.

In the Helsinki round of negotiations, human rights, eventually enshrined in "Basket Three" of the Helsinki Final Act, became a vastly important weapon in the Western armoury against which the Soviet side under Andropov, Chernenko and Gorbachev could pit very little.

Having subscribed to our frame of reference on human rights in the hope of securing, as a *quid pro quo*, the final recognition and security of their empire, the Soviet leaders ended up without an empire. We managed to "export goodness" to exceptionally good effect. The Foreign Secretary seems to be fully aware that we can do so again.

Yours sincerely,
GEORGE R. URBAN,
14 Palmeira Square,
Hove, Sussex,
July 18.

From Mr Oleg Gordievsky

Sir, The Government's intention that human rights must be a central concern of foreign policy signifies a welcome positive change. After all, the (old) Labour Party of the 1970s and 1980s did not show a very robust attitude to human rights in the communist countries or to the Soviet nuclear threat.

The question now is whether the Government will have the nerve to support human rights impartially in such different and "difficult" countries as China, Kenya, Vietnam, Saudi Arabia, Russia and Cuba.

Yours faithfully,
OLEG GORDIEVSKY,
c/o A. M. Heath,
79 St Martin's Lane, WC2,
July 19.

Northern Ireland

From Mr T. G. Wills-Sandford

Sir, J. P. Knight (letter, July 21) rightly wonders why the Ulster Unionists should meet the IRA, because the IRA will never give up their arms until they have achieved their aims.

All the emphasis in the past three years has been in getting talks going. Surely when parties enter into highly complex negotiations an outline of a solution must exist in someone's mind. In my wildest imagination, I cannot imagine a set of agreements which all parties will accede to.

There is no point in fooling the people of Northern Ireland or indeed in Tony Blair deluding himself that talking will represent progress. The parallel with Chamberlain is very apposite.

A fundamental change of heart is required before talks begin.

Yours sincerely,
T. G. WILLS-SANDFORD,
50 Bowerdean Street, SW6,
July 21.

Rail safety

From Mr David Norris

Sir, You report (News in brief, July 10) a call for 2,300 "slam-door" railway coaches to be scrapped earlier than planned because they are considered "dangerous".

There have been 150 fatalities over the last 30 years that can be connected in some way to these old coaches. It seems to me, however, that such a request only underlines the safety of rail travel and that such demands are almost scaremongering.

Indeed perhaps one answer to the road-traffic problem is to insist on measures to produce a safety record comparable to that of these "dangerous" coaches. Until this is done I shall continue to commute safely in them.

Yours truly,
DAVID NORRIS,
Blackthorn,
Buckhurst Lane,
Wadhurst, East Sussex,
July 17.

Mortimer on Matisse

From Mr John Mortimer, QC

Sir, In a recent interview with Valerie Grove (June 24) I said that, although I admired Matisse this side of idolatry, I wished I hadn't heard of his wartime collaborations with the Germans.

I am delighted to discover that rumours of Matisse's collaborations are unfounded. I'm sorry if I caused distress to his family and can now enjoy the work of this superb artist without reservations.

Yours etc,
JOHN MORTIMER,
Turville Heath Cottage,
Henley on Thames, Oxfordshire,
July 21.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9KN Telephone 0171-782 5000

'Two-track' NHS admissions system

From Dr Abraham Marcus

Sir, Your leading article on the ending of the two-track system of hospital admissions ("Dobson's choice", July 17) seems to deplore the attempt to displace inequity by equity.

Our health service, as things are, is an organisation for allocating time to patients. Time available depends on numbers of beds, doctors and nurses, and on the dexterity of managers in juggling shortages.

Patients of fundholding GPs have shorter waiting times because the doctor can buy them from the managers at the expense of the non-fundholders' patients who must wait longer. The market reforms, as you say, cannot manufacture more time to distribute fairly and without undue waiting.

At issue is whether we can make more time by providing more doctors and nurses, by helping managers to understand better the clinical need for time and by organising our system of care more effectively. Allocation of resources in our current state is the distribution of shortages and fundholding, in effect, is a device to conceal the process to a limited degree. It does not solve our main problem, nor do the market reforms as a whole — how to build a system of care that is equitable and effective.

What Frank Dobson has done is to reallocate the limited time available so that the fundholders' patients will wait longer and other patients won't have to wait quite so long. His move means that fundholding will, wither on the vine.

To address the main problem he will need more money and more ideas.

Yours truly,
ABRAHAM MARCUS,
5 Greenaway Gardens, NW3,
July 20.

From the Director of the
Institute of Economic Affairs
Health and Welfare Unit

Sir, The Government's announcement that it will prevent GP fund-

Turkey and EU

From Dr David Shankland

Sir, I fear that EU politicians have not thought through the profound long-term consequences of the apparent policy of the European Union to make Turkey's exclusion from the EU permanent — while proceeding to admit the Republic of Cyprus, before a long-term solution has been found to reconcile the Greeks and the Turkish zones (report, July 17; see also leading article same day, letter, July 19).

At the time of Greece's application to join the European Community, as it then was, it was made quite clear that no one intended to disturb the balance which then existed in relations between the two countries and the rest of Europe.

In the event, however, the admission of Greece in 1981 has been followed by the steady growth of hostile perceptions of Turkey, a unique and virtually permanent ban on all EU financial assistance to that country, and a deepening political rift. Some Greek spokesmen have tried to call for

holders from gaining advantages for their patients reveals that the Secretary of State has not fully understood how competition works to the advantage of all.

If a GP fundholder arranges for a patient to see a specialist in six weeks instead of six months, Mr Dobson's 1960s egalitarian mind-set can only see one patient gaining an advantage at the expense of another.

He has not understood that competition has a rebound effect that ripples through any industry or service as the laggards seek to emulate the best.

Other GPs, who see that they are failing, must raise standards for the benefit of their own patients and, in their turn, they will raise the benchmark against which all doctors are judged.

All progress is the result of such emulation, but it looks as if Mr Dobson prefers the uniformity of ration-book collectivism.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID GREEN,
Director,
Health and Welfare Unit,
Institute of Economic Affairs,
2 Lord North Street, SW1,
July 17.

From Professor Emeritus
E. Rhys Davies

Sir, Your leading article makes the remarkable statement that "direct surgical intervention should be resisted wherever possible".

I am not a surgeon but the surgeons who taught me (just after the inception of the NHS) laid the emphasis on making the correct diagnosis, so that surgery, when indicated positively, should not be delayed.

Mr Dobson has made the correct diagnosis. I trust his surgery will not be delayed, and that it will be radical enough to be curative.

Yours sincerely,
RHYS DAVIES,
19 Hyland Grove,
Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol,
July 17.

EU solidarity against Turkey. This process will now inevitably be powerfully accelerated.

Turkey has long been recognised as a key Western ally of 65 million people in a vital strategic area. It also now has a strong and dynamic industrial economy which has successfully established a customs union with the European Union. Though its exports are holding their own in the European market, the EU receives the lion's share of the benefits of that union.

Turkey has contributed more to Europe than most Europeans seem to realise. The inter-governmental conference decision creates dangerous imbalances in the eastern Mediterranean, exacerbates rather than soothes the disputes there, and gives a powerful filip to anti-European and anti-Western currents in Turkey. It needs to be urgently rethought.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID SHANKLAND,
University of Wales, Lampeter,
Anthropology Unit,
Lampeter, Ceredigion,
July 18.

Hague on EMU

From the Chairman
of the European Foundation

Sir, Peter Riddell writes today, with reference to European Monetary Union: "William Hague may not have satisfied the ultra-sceptics by opposing entry on principle."

Mr Hague made his principled opposition clear in the May edition of this Foundation's *European Journal*. There he said: "Submerging the pound in a single European currency would not be in the interests of Britain. I am opposed to a single currency in principle but I do not believe it is in Britain's interests to withdraw from Europe."

The key issue is one of renegotiation. As an ultra-sceptic — or, as I prefer to describe those of my persuasion, as a Euro-realist — I find Mr Hague's statement completely satisfactory.

Yours etc,
BILL CASH,
Chairman, European Foundation,
61 Pall Mall, SW1,
July 21.

Radio 4 changes

From Mr Brian West

Sir, The leaked information about proposed changes to the programmes on BBC Radio 4 has provoked the familiar knee-jerk reaction from the network's "defenders", as they see themselves (letters, July 17).

The BBC, in which I have many respected friends and former colleagues from various joint ventures, is so good at conducting itself in the corridors of power (witness the smooth renewal of the Charter and the continuation of the rising licence fee), but so bad at handling the PR of schedule changes.

Yet, no radio or television service, newspaper or other regular publication can stand still because public interest and tastes do not stand still.

The Times has changed much over recent years and continues to change (mostly for the better, though I'm sure not all will agree) the same process of renewal and experimentation takes place in every broadcast service I have

ever heard of, and not being reliant on audience numbers to obtain its revenue, the BBC is better placed than commercial broadcasters to try something new.

James Boyle, Radio 4's Controller, has a challenging task, but I hope neither he nor the BBC Governors will be deflected from their purpose of keeping Radio 4 fresh and relevant to the times we live in by a vociferous minority who seem to want to fossilise it.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN WEST,
(Fellow of the Radio Academy),
Hapusrwydd,
21 Old London Road, Flint,
brianandgillianwest
@compuserve.com
July 18.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Libertarianism, rights and duties

From Lord Howell of Guildford

Sir, Oh no! Please, not a "Conservative Party of a more libertarian temperament" (Michael Gove, "Seduced by the Centre", July 16).

The yawning hole in the structure of Western values today is the terrible feeling of concern for that set of virtues, obligations and attitudes of respect and trust which bind families together, and through families bind society together.

The excesses of collectivism having been undone, the pendulum has now swung far too far the other way towards a mutated and brutal libertarianism, in which everyone demands their own space, in which the cry "It's my life and I'll do what I like with it" is the nearest we have to a moral standard, and in which human rights are constantly asserted and human duties rarely (letter, July 19).

Instead of stoking these new excesses and trumpeting the libertarian ideal we need to learn with humility from those cultures and religions which have successfully strengthened the family network, its virtues and example, even under modern pressures. We also need political leaders who can clothe this better balance of society in powerful language and lift 20th-century Western thought out of its present rut.

How about a Universal Declaration of Human Duties to go alongside the one about Rights, before the libertarian zealots, on the rebound from the collectivist zealots, turn our Western societies to atomised and uncaring dust.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID HOWELL,
House of Lords,
July 21.

Anonymity in court

From Mr Geoffrey Dence

Sir, On your front page today you report the acquittal of a professor on charges brought by two young ladies, one of whom it transpires has made a similar allegation in the past; and our legal system grants them anonymity.

If their charges had been proven then I agree they should have their identity withheld, but in the current circumstances surely we should know their names in the interests of self-preservation.

Yours, etc,
GEOFFREY DENCE,
The Firs, East Grimstead,
Salisbury, Wiltshire,
geoffrey.dence@btinternet.com
July 22.

From Mrs Joan Lewis

Sir, I was amazed to read today in your profile of "Miss X" that Salt Lake City is situated in Ohio. When I was there three years ago it was firmly placed in Utah.

When did it move?

Yours sincerely,
JOAN LEWIS,
3 West Eaton Place, SW1,
July 22.

Abbey statues

From Mr R. J. M. Tolhurst

Sir, Having done without statues on its west front since at least the mid-17th century, does Westminster Abbey need them now (letters, July 12, 1997)?

Dean Wilcock, who had the west front completed in the early 18th century, presumably did not think so. And will not at least some of the selection of 20th-century martyrs be almost sure to be controversial?

Yours faithfully,
R. J. M. TOLHURST,
Flat 52,
The Vineyards,
Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex.

Sacked clergy

From Ms M. Siobhan McLeod

Sir, If the Reverend Alex Coker is a servant of God and not an employee of the Church (report, July 10; letter, July 15) how can the Church sack him?

Surely all Christians are the servants of God. If so, does this mean that we (Christians) should deny the need for employment contracts, as everything we do should be in the service of our God?

Yours faithfully,
S. McLEOD,
3 Bryony Road,
Burgham, Guildford, Surrey.

One rule for the rich?

From Mr Andrew McClintock

Sir, On the front page of your last two editions (July 19, 21) you have carried photographs with a common theme — glamorous people in the backs of cars not wearing seat belts.

Do the great and the good, like the favourites of Stuart kings, enjoy a dispensation from the need to belt up in the back? Or is this legal technicality a sop to public opinion, that no one expects to be enforced at all, and which therefore should be repealed?

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW MCCLINTOCK,
Clarendon House,
19 Cavendish Road, Brimcliffe,
Sheffield, South Yorkshire,
July 21.

Officials are unaffected by reports of war or famine

Why top brass never sticks its neck out

An argument always trotted out against a Freedom of Information Act is that ministers and government officials would be inhibited in making policy if they thought that their confidential thoughts and doubts might become known. Yet a new report shows that media coverage makes hardly a blind bit of difference to policymakers.

In London and in Washington, Nik Gowing, of BBC World Service Television, found that the accepted wisdom among military men, politicians and diplomats — and even journalists — was that painful images on television goad governments into action. In the United States they call it "the CNN factor". In Britain the "something must be done" effect.

But this factor is feeble, he finds, in a study for the Carnegie Commission on Preventing Deadly Conflict. Decision-makers on both sides of the Atlantic, when pressed, admit that national interest is far more powerful than media images in determining what action a country takes towards violence and suffering outside its borders.

The national interest increasingly decrees non-intervention: long, hesitating consultation with allies; or, occasionally, a quick entrance and exit. Television pictures play little part in these decisions.

The finding is a cheerful one if you are fed up with people in power claiming that the press and television, not they, shape events. But the conclusion is pretty gloomy if, like the report's author, you wish that media coverage, television particularly, could somehow prevent conflict and misery.

It does not. The best it can do is stimulate humanitarian aid. Distorted reporting from Rwanda showed that the gestures of relief actually stopped the international community from intervening to stop the genocide.

For journalists, the rest of Mr Gowing's message makes even more dismal reading. The main reason why the top brass do not take their cues from the media is because the reporting is almost invariably wrong — even if for the most respectable of reasons. The brave reporter standing in the midst of genocide or famine simply cannot get the facts.

The true "story" — the conventional misnomer for a news report — lies in what has been happening before the conflict breaks out, before the cameras and microphones fly in and after they have gone. Then the plot often changes direction in a way that would be far too complicated for news desks to explain to their readers and viewers.

Mr Gowing is pessimistic about the likelihood that easier and cheaper interna-

tional coverage will increase popular interest and understanding of foreign affairs. Thanks to the proliferation of international news networks, the lightness of equipment and ease of satellite transmission, the news desk now has to face a supermarket of choice. There is simply so much variety that only the latest news and stories most likely to win television awards make it to the screen. Not only do "stories" hold their news value for a very brief time, but globalisation of news has been accompanied by increasing parochialism.

The task for television news editors is clear. Having flown in their reporters to a hot spot and allowing them only a few brief sentences before intoning their byline, they must insist that those in the field explain that the pictures behind them do not tell the whole story.



BRENDA MADDOX

WHEN I read a Letter to the Editor by the chairman of a large organisation, I winced to think of the PR effort expended: the rough drafts, the collected comments, the revisions, all required to give the few words internal imprimatur. However, I am sure Sir Christopher Bland, chairman of the BBC, chose his own adjectives when, in a letter to *The Times* last week, he called me "wrong, premature and confused".

Let us just deal with that "premature". It was too soon to shout about the forthcoming changes to Radio 4, he said, because they have not been revealed yet. (BBC governors get them tomorrow.)

But by then it will be too late. The BBC has a habit of announcing as "proposals" plans that are already set in concrete: witness the World Service. At last week's public meeting in London on the future of the service, Jocelyn Hay, of the Voice of the Listener and Viewer, pointed out that when anxieties arose about the proposed restructuring, a BBC Governors' World Service Consultative Group was promised, to ensure that the service's quality survived.

The World Service was restructured on April 1; the consultative group has yet to be appointed. Sam Younger, the managing director of the World Service, explained, in the steady voice of a survivor, the apparent contradiction, that the changes had been intended to be implemented "both before April 1 and by April 1". We deferred the body until the rest was established," he said. It apparently will be set up in a few weeks' time. Sounds post-mature to me.

Media Coverage: Help or Hindrance on Conflict Prevention, by Nik Gowing, Carnegie Commission, 2400 N St. N.W., Washington, DC 20037-1153, <http://www.carnegie.org>

The Client's Story

All the glory, or the blame, goes to the creatives and the agencies when a new advert appears. But what of the person who bought the ad, the person who said yes, the person with nerves of steel, the person who crossed his fingers and signed the cheque?



Steve McQueen returns from celluloid heaven to drive the new Ford Puma

FORD PUMA

THE CLIENT
Brian Wade, 52, brand manager, specialist products, Ford of Britain.

WHAT OTHER CAMPAIGNS HAVE YOU BOUGHT?
Ford Galaxy (travel first class), Mondeo "Venice".

THE AGENCY
Young & Rubicam.

WHAT'S THE PLOT?
You are in San Francisco. Someone is driving. You see these eyes that look familiar. Reveal Steve McQueen. The editing speeds up. It's reminiscent of the chase scene in *Bullitt*. He reverses into a garage. He looks at the motorcycle he rode in *The Great Escape* and at the Mustang from *Bullitt*. He taps the Puma affectionately and then walks off.

WHAT'S THE STRATEGY?
Puma is not just a looker. It's for real.

WAS IT EXPENSIVE?
£800,000. Pretty much the going rate for a first-class 60 second ad these days.

AT WHOM IS IT AIMED?
25-35s, generally single or cohabiting. People who like life, like personal challenges. Also 45+, people getting freed of some of their responsibilities.

WHAT DID MCQUEEN'S FAMILY SAY?
Steve's son Chad, an actor, said his father would be OK with it. I don't know the amount they were paid. It's all part of the bill. You wouldn't have paid a lot more for a living actor.

WERE YOU WORRIED ABOUT ACCUSATIONS OF GRAVE DIGGING?
Obviously we researched it. People are comfortable with the idea.

HOW LONG DID IT TAKE?
About a week of filming. Then countless hours on FLAME, a post-production system.

HOW WAS IT DONE?
First they selected the bits of Steve McQueen action. Then it's a case of lifting the image and placing it on the film. When he gets out of the car, he's actually getting out of the rear seat of a taxi. His shoulder clips the v-pillar of the car — that's how painstaking it was. They even used the same kind of film stock so that you can't see any discrepancies. The original cameraman from *Bullitt* was advising on the set. The young woman at the end of the ad — her mother worked on the film, too. There were lots of strange coincidences.

DAVID MCGRATH

Great wheels but lousy ad

Have car advertisements lost their way, asks Simon Brooke

WITH car commercials costing about £500,000 a throw and offering creative teams and directors the chance to indulge their wildest fantasies, auto advertising is an excellent account to hold.

Car adspend is buoyant. According to ACNielsen-MEAL, it stood at £607 million in the 12 months to May this year (up by more than 10 per cent on last year). But according to a number of commentators, car advertising often misses its mark. Storylines are confused and messages appear to jar with current attitudes on sexual stereotyping and the environment.

In their search for fresh themes and ideas, car advertisers have sometimes overstepped the bounds of good taste. This month the Independent Television Commission (ITC) published the usual clutch of viewers' complaints about car commercials. It upheld objections to Euro-SCG's Citroën Saxo spot which showed a car on the production line undergoing a violent transformation into a sports model during which it was possessed by demons.

After complaints were upheld by the ITC, Rover withdrew its 600 series ad which featured the release of a hostage by tribesmen. The current Rover advertisement shows an executive whose fury at the rejection of his big idea by "the board" is soothed by a quick spin in his car. "It's not offensive," says an executive who has worked on a number of car accounts, "but it still requires a leap of faith. Most people drive out of necessity, some might even enjoy it but hardly anyone can like it that much."

The AA has been unhappy for some time about the content of car commercials, in particular about how they affect driving safety. Matthew Joint, head of behavioural analysis at the AA, invited a group of young people to watch a series of car ads. "Although the women were concerned with such things as costs, the lads, who were the target market, were interested in speed, power and acceleration," he says. "It's completely the wrong image. This kind of message can cause dangerous driving and traffic violations."

Lack of innovation and creativity are often to blame for poor advertisements, some industry insiders believe. "From being a leading category in the world of advertising, it has become a sort of beautiful mediocrity," says Charles Kirchner, of the agency CKBT. "People seem to be throwing money rather than thought at it."

Things, however, may be changing. Ford's latest commercial (see left) relies on clever editing and technological wizardry to work images of its latest model, the Puma, into scenes from the cult movie *Bullitt*. Paul Venn, of the ad agency Young & Rubicam, says: "We wanted to say more than 'It does 0 to 60 in however many seconds'. You don't need to hit people over the head because so much is implied by McQueen's character."

In a refreshing move away from the "little woman" stereotype, Fiat's first Spirito di Ponto spot featured a woman showing up her boyfriend, who had been critical of her driving. In the latest, the woman initially seems to be an incompetent navigator, but she has planned the detour and a romantic dinner awaits.

However, while the industry reaches for the kind of cult status achieved by John Hegarty's "Lauderette" for Levi's, there seems to be a long and winding road ahead.

There seems to be a long, winding road ahead

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eption

Talk show to freak show

In its pursuit of ever higher ratings, the BBC seems happy to dispense with quality, says Peter Foster

When the makers of *Kilroy*, the BBC's volatile daytime chat show, look back on the current series they will probably congratulate themselves on a job well done. In September last year a *Kilroy* was jailed for five years after being recognised in the programme. "Villain is quoted on *Kilroy*", ran the *Daily Star* headline. Four months later, in January, the publicist Max Clifford had "an amazing TV bust-up" with Roger Gale, the Tory MP. Mr Clifford was appearing to talk about his role in exposing the alleged affair between Jerry Hayes, then a Tory MP, and his former researcher, Paul Stone. "They were nose to nose snarling," a programme spokesman told *The Mirror*. "And then, last month, the big one: 'Cops nick kiddie sex-friend as he jags on *Kilroy*'" boasted *The Sun* when a man was arrested just as the show's studio after confessing, live, to paedophilia.

The BBC wants the ratings but none of the inevitable fuss

So adept has the programme's host, Robert Kilroy-Silk, become at making the news he has excited the interest of the US television networks and is currently negotiating a possible syndication deal with them. The history of *Kilroy* is peppered with the sort of salacious gobbits which may be welcomed by programme commissioners on the other side of the Atlantic. The files kept by newspaper libraries are fat with tales of bust-ups, reunions and revelations, superintended by Mr Kilroy-Silk, a former Labour MP. They are the lifeblood of the programme and the principle brands by which the Kilroy brand maintains both its place at the top of the ratings and its bad (ie, good) reputation. Every story that appears in *The Sun*, *Mirror* or *Daily Star* reinforces the impression that *Kilroy* is the natural home of controversy and revelation.

The *Kilroy* team are masters of manipulating their own publicity, fully aware of the value of keeping the tabloids well fed with the show's prime cuts. It is a happily symbiotic relationship. Kilroy whips up some scandal or other and the papers, never able to turn down a free story, obligingly rise to the bait. It is easy to scoff at this flimsy trade-in-outage which draws a sizeable chunk — more than one million people — of the morning viewing audience. For the Mary Whitehouse brigade it can be dismissed as derivative and downmarket Americana. They

question mark over whether the televised testimony of a less than eloquent "abuser" was necessary to deepen audience understanding of the condition. A clinical psychologist who works with paedophiles could surely have provided equal or greater insight and might even have stopped the show descending into cheap farce. This was victim television of the worst kind.

The paedophile's appearance — heavily disguised and his face cast in dramatic shadows — did nothing to further moral debate. He was an object of revulsion on which the audience could focus all its righteous indignation. By the end Mr Kilroy-Silk was not presiding over a debate but a freak show of the sort that was outlawed in fairgrounds many years ago.

Programme makers justify such stunts by arguing that they are using first-hand experiences to tackle difficult issues head on. This argument seems like a disingenuous excuse to exploit people for the sake of ratings. Sensitively and responsibly handled, such testimony has a place, but not when it is used as kindling for the worst kind of collective moral outrage. The makers of talk shows such as *Kilroy* and *The Place* may protest their innocence, but with the intense demand for ratings success their motives will always be in doubt.

The BBC, whose commitment to its public service remit was emphatically renewed by its chairman, Sir Christopher Bland, in last month's annual report, is curiously ambiguous in its attitude to shows such as *Kilroy*. The corporation places the programme up against its ITV rival and twice extended the current series. The programme has performed well, beating its rival and attracting viewers to the network before Richard and Judy steal the ratings after 10.30am.

After the paedophile incident, the BBC issued an apology when viewers and MPs complained. The apology had a convenient ring to it. The BBC didn't apologise for what was arguably an equally tasteless episode earlier in the last series, entitled *Related to a Rapist*. Two women who had conceived after being raped appeared on the show with the resulting children. A third who discovered her husband was a rapist appeared with her son who told how he feared he might have inherited the genes of a sex attacker. As a senior figure



Robert Kilroy-Silk has become adept at making the news with salacious revelations

from the independent production industry put it: "It seems as if the BBC wants all the ratings but none of the inevitable fuss that is part and parcel of producing modern, ratings-driven TV." Despite this, *Kilroy*'s ratings are good enough to offset the occasional embarrassing episode, and the BBC has commissioned another series which starts in September. The BBC is happy to justify the series: "Kilroy engages viewers in debate on important topical issues of the day... in response to viewers' needs and wishes."

clear that commercially successful programmes do not have to be of poor quality. Shows such as *Prime Suspect* and *Cracker* attracted huge audiences but were of a very high standard. Those marriages between popularity and quality are what we are always looking for," she says. Achieving that balance means neither descending to the lowest kind of sensationalist television nor caving in to an entrenched minority of traditionalists. But *Kilroy*, which began with serious educational intent, is in danger of prostituting itself in the pursuit of ever higher audience ratings.

For others in the industry, populism is not necessarily a pejorative term. Eileen Gallagher, the managing director of broadcasting at Granada and LWT, who has a formidable reputation as a programmer and who achieves consistently high ratings, is

THE LISTENER

THE NEWS BEHIND THE HEADLINES

Radio 4 left on the Boyle

JAMES BOYLE meets the BBC Governors tomorrow to present his plans for revamping Radio 4 and soon we'll all know which old favourites are for the chop. But not that soon.

An announcement was expected on Friday, putting all those sweating under the sword of Damocles out of their misery. But there won't be any news until the middle of next week because Boyle is flying out after his power to attend his son's wedding in America.

After waiting six months while Boyle conducted his review, it might be argued that a few more days is neither here nor there. But try telling that to the increasingly fractious staff on *Yesterday in Parliament* or *Farming Today*. "It hardly bodes well when he can't coordinate something like this," moans one producer.

Breathalyser

OVER at Canary Wharf staff complain of a disturbing new development. They say that David Montgomery, Mirror Group's teetotal

Stiffened backs talk of being forced to hold their breath for up to 23 floors lest "Rommel" detects the whiff of alcohol (drinking is strictly frowned upon). Some *Independent* staff have been witnessed falling out of the lift at level 18, gasping for air. Whether Monty's afternoon appearances are planned or coincidence, journalists are currently taking lunches at their desks from plastic canteen boxes.



Whitaker: on the shelf

Screen drama

THERE is never a dull off-screen moment where the London Film Festival is concerned. Former director Sheila Whitaker has shed plans for a rival festival with a competition and market element aimed at attracting moguls from around the world. But now Visa, last year's main sponsor, has decided not to back this year's event, saying it found the festival too UK specific. The smart money is on American Express wading in.

Public call box

THE laudable attempt by Michael Fabricant to ban mobile phones in public places has been greeted with some surprise by journalists. The Lichfield MP is known as a firm devotee of communications technology. Of all Westminster MPs he is noted as one of the most fastidious at keeping journalists up to date with his numbers. Each time he changes his mobile number or goes away for a weekend they are faced with details of where he can be contacted.



Montgomery: on the scent

chief executive, has taken to using the office lifts at precisely 3pm — the time when certain reckless journalists are returning from liquid lunches at local hostilities.

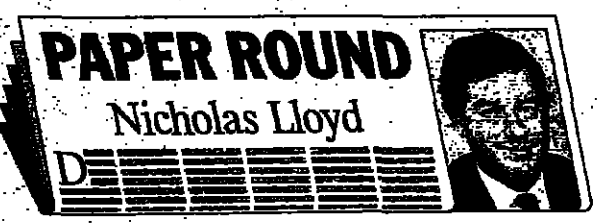


Roger Gale and Max Clifford's "amazing bust-up" on Kilroy

Why was Clare let off?

Clare Short Affair. Wrecks Marriage. *Sunday Mirror*'s exclusive page one headline last weekend. The newspaper revealed that Cabinet Minister Clare Short was accused of having a passionate affair with a Labour MP and wrecking his marriage. Jim Marshall, MP for Leicester South, was reported as telling friends: "I was a very silly man with Clare Short. It has cost me my marriage."

The *Sunday Telegraph*, in its later editions, put the story on its front page, too, and Monday's *Daily Mail* ran two pages on "Adultery, lurid headlines and the curious silence of Clare Short". By yesterday the story seemed dead. Yet under the last Conservative Government this genre of story would have been guaranteed to run and run. Just imagine what the national newspapers might have done with a similar story to Clare Short's involving a top-flight Tory woman Minister, say, Gillian Shephard or Virginia Bottomley?



Nicholas Lloyd

clear he draws a distinct line between personal impropriety by an MP and financial impropriety, Piers Morgan, the Editor, said. "In an interview I did with him he made it clear he would sack on the spot any MP guilty of financial misbehaviour but that he had a problem with imposing his own personal morality on MPs' private lives."

"The PM's approach means that Clare Short's behaviour is not a big issue for the Labour party or the voters." "Under the Tory Government John Major's focus on the back to basics policy and its stance as the party of the family meant that it was easy for newspapers to pursue and catch Tory MPs behaving badly — and we caught them in copious numbers. Indeed, we caught so many of them that these kind of stories have become devalued."

Minister it might well have got far more play. Following the party line, Mr Morgan argued that he was much more interested in financial impropriety of the type alleged against two Labour MPs, Mohammed Sarwar and Bob Wareing.

Sunday's sales figures may suggest that the reading public is becoming satiated with this kind of political sex story. This week the *Sunday Mirror*'s estimated sale dropped slightly. The *News of the World*, with the rather tame page one on "Charles Gives Camilla £100,000 bracelet", had an increase of 17,000. More surprisingly, the *News of the World* and *The Sun*, no strangers to juicy scandal, both failed to follow up the *Sunday Mirror*'s story.



Clare Short: curious silence

He claimed that the *Sunday Mirror* had no proof, no pictures and the quote from Jim Marshall was reported only by so-called friends.

"If we'd had enough proof we would have gone for it," he said. "I don't think the reason that the daily papers failed to follow it up is connected to politics. The problem is that Clare Short is not a classic mistress. Also she isn't married although, of course, the other MP was. If someone had got the wife attacking Clare then it would have been a really interesting story but no one's talking."

Neil Wallis, deputy editor of *The Sun*, firmly believes that there is considerable public interest in this kind of story. "The problem with the *Sunday Mirror* story was that it was muddy," Mr Wallis said. "No one was speaking about it and it happened before the election and before she was a Cabinet Minister. Somehow it was yesterday's story that we caught up with too late."

Nevertheless I suspect that press and public alike feel differently about private-life scandals involving the new Labour regime compared with similar stories about the outgoing Tories. Eighteen years in power stretched the elasticity of democracy — and snapped any elasticity of tolerance towards misdemeanours.

One former Cabinet Minister explained: "I do not think we really understood until the day after the election just how much the public and many journalists had come to hate us. There was a rumbling mood of destruction among journalists and voters. We had been there so long we appeared smug, posh, elitist. They wanted to laugh at us, to do us down and after so long in government the sexual and financial sleaze stories blew away what little respect we still command."

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

WEDNESDAY JULY 23 1997

A&L may launch a bid for Nationwide

By CAROLINE MERRELL
AND ANNE ASHWORTH

THE Alliance & Leicester, which floated only three months ago, is set to emerge as a "white knight" bidder for the Nationwide to create a £10 billion bank.

Nationwide, the UK's biggest building society, today will announce the result of a crucial vote on its future direction with investors expected to support a move towards conversion to a bank.

A spokesman for the A&L, which has made no secret of its expansion plans, said yesterday: "The crucial thing is that the Nationwide has put itself in play."

The Nationwide, valued at £7 billion by Goldman Sachs, its merchant bank adviser, is nearly twice the size of the A&L. However, many in the industry believe the two would be a good fit. As a merged force, the combined operation would be almost immune to takeover.

Peter White, Alliance & Leicester

chief executive, is aware that any such takeover would cost the bank its five-year protection from predators, but he might be willing to take this step to achieve critical mass.

A third of the Nationwide's 3.5 million members have voted on the election of five board members, including the eccentric Michael Hardern, a freelance butler.

If the vote goes in favour of Mr Hardern and his fellow dissidents, who are standing on a pro-conversion ticket, members could look

forward to an average windfall of between £1,000 and £2,000. The result will be announced at lunchtime today — 24 hours earlier than anticipated.

The dissidents are opposed by five existing board members committed to mutualism.

Industry commentators believe that, if the Nationwide loses the vote and is forced to convert, it will spell the end of the building society industry, with the likes of Britannia and Bradford & Bingley forced to

follow suit. The societies are said to be in a state of panic about the turn of events at the Nationwide.

The Birmingham Midshires yesterday shut its doors to new customers, after a large inflow of speculative cash.

The society has appointed JP Morgan, the merchant bank, to examine its future options. Head-hunters are currently searching for a new managing director for the society. Mike Jackson remains as chief executive.

Arnault raises GrandMet stake

By DOMINIC WALSH

BERNARD ARNAULT'S aggressive campaign to derail the planned £24 billion merger of Guinness and Grand Metropolitan took a fresh twist yesterday as the LVMH chairman took his stake in GrandMet to almost 10 per cent.

M. Arnault, who already held a 6.37 stake in GrandMet in addition to his 14.2 per cent Guinness holding, sent BZW, the broker, into the market to top up his GrandMet stake by selling Guinness shares. The switch operation sent Guinness shares down 9½ p to 596p; GrandMet rose 16p to 622p.

Some 118 million GrandMet shares changed hands, suggesting BZW may have picked up nearly 3 per cent, taking LVMH's stake to about 9 per cent. However, sources in Paris indicated that M. Arnault may have breached the 10 per cent mark. It is thought his Guinness holding has dropped below 12 per cent.

LVMH, which opposes the merger because it does not include LVMH's Moët Hennessy drinks arm, is expected to disclose details of the share transactions today.

If on 10 per cent of GrandMet, M. Arnault could call an extraordinary meeting to vote on his proposal that the drinks businesses of the two British companies be split from their food and brewing interests and merged with Moët Hennessy.

M. Arnault is prevented from raising his stake in Guinness, but can buy more of GrandMet. With support from some of GrandMet's bigger institutional shareholders, he might be aiming for 25 per cent, at which level he could block the two-way merger.

One view has it that continued divergence of Guinness's and GrandMet's share prices would make it harder for their union to be one of equals.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4846.7	(+41.0)
Yield	4.1%	
FTSE All share	2270.91	(+14.42)
Nikkei	20157.02	(-92.30)
New York		
Dow Jones	7954.57	(+47.85)*
S&P Composite	921.14	(+8.20)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5½%	(5½%)
Long Bond	101½%	(101½%)
Yield	6.51%	(6.54%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6½%	(6½%)
Life long gilt		
Future (Sep)	114½%	(114½%)

STERLING

New York	1.6735*	(1.6787)
London	1.6767	(1.6780)
DM	3.0984	(3.0942)
FF	10.2420	(10.1760)
Yen	2.4802	(2.4771)
Sfr	193.85	(194.37)
£ Index	105.7	(105.2)

DOLLAR

London	1.6173*	(1.7085)
DM	6.1225*	(6.0585)
FF	1.4815*	(1.4760)
Yen	115.53*	(118.15)
Sfr	104.0	(103.9)

TOKYO CLOSE YEN/£

116.48	
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NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Oct)	\$18.25	(\$18.20)
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GOLD

London close	\$328.35	(\$326.75)
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* denotes midday trading price

Single currency

Business leaders yesterday urged the Government to agree in principle to join Europe's single currency — but called on ministers to defer joining until after its planned start date in 1999.

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Heart drugs

SmithKline Beecham has strengthened its portfolio of heart drugs by securing American marketing rights to the cholesterol-lowering agents. Page 27

Boeing raises hopes on EU ban

By OLIVER AUGUST

BOEING last night offered new concessions to the European Commission in an eleven-hour bid to avert a ban on its \$14 billion (£8.35 billion) merger with McDonnell Douglas.

Karel Van Miert, the European Competition Commissioner, told EU foreign ministers that Boeing appeared to be easing its position on the controversial issue of exclusive supply contracts to US airlines.

The Commission is due to give its verdict on the merger today and is widely expected to reject it unless Boeing makes substantial new concessions. Talks broke down last week.

The possibility of a peaceful end to the dispute was welcomed by political leaders in Europe and America. Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, said: "There remains the very real possibility that it will be possible to reach agreement."

President Clinton said: "I think there's a way to work this out. I am hopeful that when the Commission meets, an agreement will have been reached."

Boeing has 20-year exclusive supplier agreements with Continental, Delta and American Airlines. It has already offered to cut the agreements back to between 13 and 15 years. It also offered not to make any new such agreements in the next ten years.

Mr Van Miert believes the merger would give Boeing a near-monopoly position in the civil aviation sector. Boeing's and McDonnell's combined might in the military sector has also raised objections from Mr Van Miert.

History lessons, page 29

BAT pays £1bn for half of Mexico's tobacco trade

By JON ASHWORTH

BAT Industries, the tobacco-to-financial services group, is buying Mexico's biggest cigarette maker for \$1.7 billion (£1.01 billion).

The deal, BAT's biggest tobacco purchase, brings the group 50 per cent of the Mexican cigarette market and strengthens its grip on cigarette distribution in Latin America. The transaction will boost BAT's tobacco trading profits by about \$140 million next year.

Mexico is the last country in Latin America in which BAT is not represented. Brands include Lucky Strike and Benson & Hedges. Martin Broughton, BAT chief executive, said the move was a statement of confidence in the long-term health of the tobacco industry. Cigarrera La Moderna (CLM) is the world's 15th largest cigarette maker, and has spare capacity for about 15 billion cigarettes, enabling BAT to take advantage of Mexico's low production costs for export.

Shares in BAT rose 13½ p to 517½ p yesterday. Mr Broughton said the timing of the deal was coincidental, following hard on the landmark \$368 billion legal settlement in the US. Negotiations took a year to complete. However, he conceded that BAT favours the longer term potential of emerging markets, compared with mature markets such as America, which offer immediate high returns, and declining long-term prospects.

Mr Broughton said: "This acquisition offers us the rare opportunity to buy a sizeable and very profitable player in a growth market. CLM provides us with strong current profitability, as well as substantial potential for growth."

BAT has been targeting the newly opened markets of Eastern Europe and Central Asia, which continue to enjoy rapid



Martin Broughton, chief executive, said BAT's move was a statement of confidence in the health of the tobacco industry

growth. Declining prospects in the US were exemplified in June's landmark settlement, in which tobacco producers agreed to sweeping new controls, and pledged to pay out \$368 billion over 25 years in return for protection from legal challenges. Pending Congress approval, US cigarette makers will soon be barred from using the Marlboro Man, Joe Camel and other images in advertising.

Faced with class actions brought by smokers, and increasing restrictions on smoking, the big tobacco groups have turned their attention elsewhere. Last year, exports at Philip Morris, maker of

Marlboro, accounted for half of net revenues. BAT was well represented in Mexico until the 1970s, when government restrictions on foreign shareholdings forced it to reduce its presence. Its former Mexican subsidiary, Enpresa La Moderna (ELM), is BAT's partner in the initial stages of the CLM acquisition, which is being financed from BAT's own resources. CLM will be granted an option to redeem the 50 per cent of the shares held by ELM, passing full control to BAT.

The deal is subject to Mexican competition approval. Shareholders speaking for a majority of ELM shares have

indicated they will vote in favour. The deal comprises \$1 billion in cash and \$500 million by a loan note payable three years from closing. BAT will assume about \$212 million in CLM debt.

BAT is said to be looking to derange its financial services interests. It reports first-half results on July 30.

□ Eagle Star, the insurance subsidiary of BAT Industries, is acquiring Preferred Insurance Direct from Friends Provident and a group of five other European insurers for £50 million. Preferred lost £13 million before tax last year.

Tempos, page 28

Brown insists Budget will dampen demand

By JAMES LANDALE AND ALASDAIR MURRAY

GORDON BROWN yesterday ruled out extending the scope of VAT and insisted his Budget tax increases would help to dampen consumer demand.

The Chancellor, in his first appearance before the Treasury Select Committee, also repeated his commitment to a stable and competitive pound "over the medium term", and said he was alive to the current concerns of exporters and industry about sterling.

But the pound rose sharply again yesterday, vouching a seven-year high as fears about a broad single currency returned to haunt the market after the French budget audit on Tuesday.

The market's attention will shift today to Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, who is expected to tell the Treasury Select Committee that interest rate rises must take precedence over the pound. Stronger than expected retail sales data, which is also published today, will heighten speculation that the Bank of England will again raise rates next month.

Mr Brown told the committee he would not follow an International Monetary Fund recommendation to broaden VAT to include exempt items such as food, children's clothes, transport, books and newspapers.

The Chancellor also rejected the charge of Quentin Davies, Conservative MP for Grantham and Stamford, that the Budget had not done enough to combat consumer

Anthony Harris, page 29

demand. Mr Brown insisted that the net impact of the tax rises introduced in the Budget would be about £1 billion in year two.

"It's quite absurd to say there's no effect on consumption, absurd to say there's no action that's being taken to cool down the housing market," Mr Brown told MPs.

The pound jumped three pence to hit DM3.0440, its highest since October 1990 — before slipping in late trade

to close at DM3.0392. Sterling's trade-weighted index also touched a seven-year high of 105.9 before closing up 0.5 at 105.7.

The stock market also recovered its poise after recent heavy losses as traders took heart from a more optimistic Wall Street. The FTSE 100 index closed up 41 points at 4846.7.

After the London close Wall Street surged when Alan Greenspan, America's leading banker, said that growth in demand had moderated but that "the current stance of policy... will need to be changed at some point."

The Federal Reserve Chairman's hint that he would continue to watch inflation closely sent the Dow Jones industrial average up by more than 130 points by mid-afternoon trading in New York. Mr Greenspan expects growth to moderate from its fast pace at the start of the year, but said he was unsure whether that would be enough to prevent the economy from coming under strain.

Stagecoach chief hits out at Opra

By FRASER NELSON

JOHN O'BRIEN, the rail franchising director, misled rail-users by claiming that his threats prompted Stagecoach to take urgent action to restore service on its troubled South West Trains franchise, it was claimed yesterday.

Brian Souter, chairman of Stagecoach, said that Mr O'Brien's threat of a £1 million fine made "no impact" on efforts to restore the 2,000 services that the company cancelled earlier this year after making too many drivers redundant. He added: "We

don't need fines as an incentive. I understand why Opra took the action they did, but everything was in place before the fine was threatened."

Mr O'Brien said last month in the annual report of the Office of Passenger Rail Franchising that Opra had played a much larger role in restoring the London Waterloo commuter line to normal levels.

A spokesman for Opra insisted that Stagecoach had taken extra action, saying: "Our goal was to restore the service. That was accomplished, so in the end it doesn't matter either way."

Stagecoach was fined £1.65 million for shortfalls on South West Trains last year, but picked up a subsidy of £1 million a day.

This left an £8 million operating profit and helped overall pre-tax profits to jump 176 per cent to £120 million in the year to April 30.

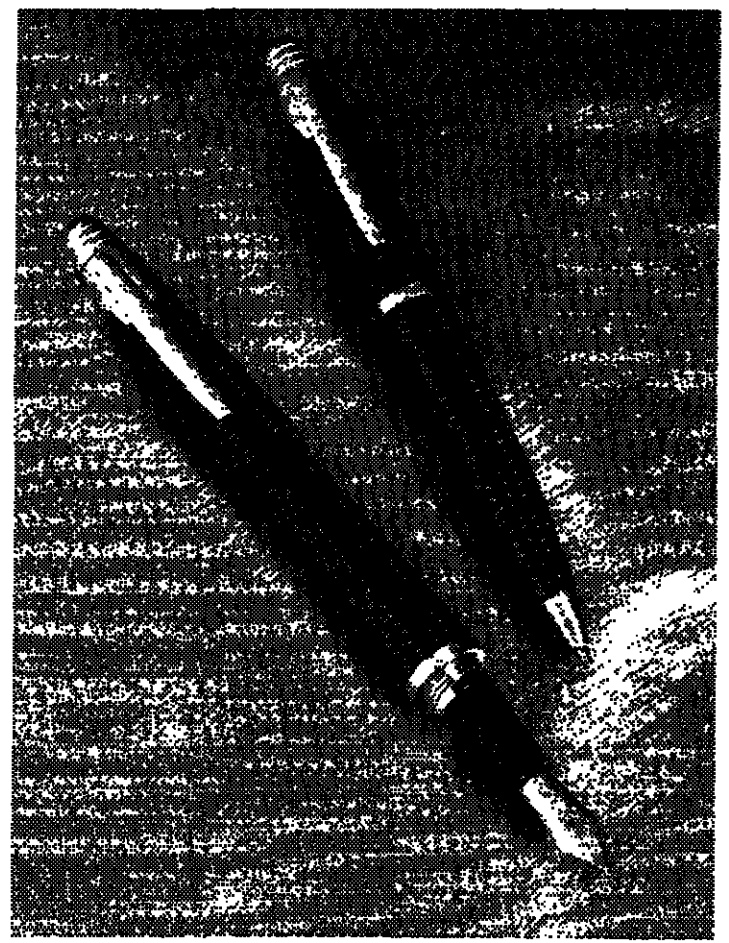
Overall, earnings rose to 39.7p (19.7p) a share. A final dividend of 6p makes a total 9p (6.72p), due on October 16.



Souter: "no impact"

Commentary, page 27

ALFRED DUNHILL



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Nicole Kidman in *Portrait of a Lady* Bono, of U2, whose album *Pop* sold millions

Hanson, the US trio, helped PolyGram's operating income from music to grow 14 per cent

Leaders of the free-market Institute of Directors are expected to move towards the CBI's stance today, softening their previous full-scale opposition to a single currency.

chief executive, said the meeting had been cordial although some differences of opinion were expressed.

Littlewoods's plan to sell the entire chain was abandoned after talks with the Kingfisher retail group fell apart. Instead, it sold 19 of its largest stores last week to Marks & Spencer for £192.5 million. The sale will involve up to 1,800 redundancies.

Mr Ross said all remaining Littlewoods stores will concentrate on selling clothing to middle-aged customers.

The group made a pre-tax profit of £85.2 million in the 12 months to April 30 (£90.7 million).

Commentary, page 27

scheme. Other big cinema operators, such as UCI, Warner Village and Rank, will be anxiously awaiting the outcome of today's hearing.

Cameron McKenna, the firm of lawyers representing Virgilio and City Estates, the developer, reckons this is the first time the "sequential test" in planning guideline PPC6 has been debated in court in relation to a leisure project. The test, designed to protect shopping areas in the centre from out-of-town developments, requires town centres to be given first preference followed by edge-of-town centres, with out-of-town sites the last resort.

Tempos, page 28

[illegible]

they know I don't have it?" Deloitte & Touche declined to comment.

Mrs Forsyth was convicted in March 1996 of handling £400,000 allegedly stolen from PPI, but the Court of Appeal quashed the conviction. As chairman of South Audley Management, which advised Nadir family interests, she was accused of laundering the money on a trip to Switzerland in 1989. The money was used to settle stockbroking fees, and to pay for cattle for Mr Nadir's

	Bank Buyer	Bank Seller
Australia \$	2.57	2.57
Austria Sch	22.94	20.20
Belgium Fr	65.57	65.57
Canada Cdn	2.68	0.83
Cyprus Cyp£	0.632	0.632
Denmark Kr	12.15	11.11
France Fr	6.55	6.55
France Fr	10.7	11.11
Garmery Dmt	8.20	2.20
Germany DM	4.21	4.21
Hong Kong \$	13.77	12.50
Iceland	127	11
India Rs	1.18	1.18
Israel Sh	20.28	20.28
Italy Lira	2123	2885
Japan Yen	360	360
Malay M	0.998	0.95
Netherlands Gld	3.75	3.31
Norway Kr	2.70	2.70
Norway Kr	12.1	12.1
Portugal Esc	218.23	236
Spain Ptas	8.36	8.36
Sweden Kr	12.1	12.1
Switzerland Fr	0.68	0.68
Swiss Fr	271.83	252
USA \$	1.782	1.82

No end to the misery of Cowes



COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

What has Cowes done to deserve Brian Souter? In the old days of British Rail, the residents of the Isle of Wight enjoyed a relatively good train service on its little eight-and-a-half mile railway. Then South West Trains was privatised and came under the control of Mr Souter's Stagecoach, which was paid £937,000 to run the Island Line franchise last year and promptly delivered three times as many late or cancelled trains. But John O'Brien, the rail regulator, cracked down on Mr Souter for this pitiful performance. Stagecoach was fined £10,000.

The names of the Perth-born Mr Souter and his sister, Ann Gloag, are mud on the south coast of England, where weary commuters have had to suffer the poor service delivered — or not delivered — by the 2,000 trains cancelled due to the staffing crisis — by South West Trains on the track up to Waterloo. And if Stagecoach gets its way, the end of this misery is not in sight. It has the cheek to ask for an extension to its franchise, which Mr Souter said is needed to make South West Trains's £3.3 million of capital expenditure worthwhile. But Stagecoach still made an £8 million profit from this franchise last year.

Anyone slowing their way up from Godalming will be surprised to see that South West Trains actually received a £1.73 million punctuality incentive last

year. This means despite it being fined £1.65 million for the train not actually turning up, it ended up receiving a net payment of £77,000 from the rail regulator last year. This in on top of the £62 million subsidy handed over to Stagecoach for this business.

But it gets worse. Because now one discovers that John O'Brien's treat to fine South West Trains £1 million more because of its poor service was no more than window dressing. The rail regulator already knew that Mr Souter and co had put their house in order, so it knew there would never be a £1 million fine or an enforcement order. So what was the rail regulator up to, except trying to look like he was doing something as the letters from "Angry of Haslemere" piled up.

The debacle shows how Brian Souter is a past master of playing the game of "put one over on the regulator". On the buses, he has been able to get away with all sorts of trickery in the North East of England — and all the Monopolies and Mergers Commission said to him was "don't do it again". When Stagecoach is forced to curtail its activities, it still comes out smelling of roses. Look at the £152 million profit it made when it was made to sell its

stake in Strathclyde buses. Rail and bus privatisation has been good to Stagecoach. It has milked the naivety of the UK Government and now owns businesses — such as Porterbrook, the rail leasing company — that deliver operating margins of 47 per cent. The only upside of this transfer of wealth from the taxpayer to the Souters is that Gordon Brown will have a popular target should he want to raise another windfall tax.

Arnault weaves his silken web

The naive Anglo-Saxon *rosbifs* continue to underestimate the Machiavellian French tactician and it is all becoming embarrassing. Bernard Arnault, who once used Guinness to help establish his control over LVMH seems to be making a good fist of reversing the process. Other investors in

Guinness and Grand Metropolitan are right to be alarmed but must blame their own boards.

Guinness thought they could treat M Arnault as a powerless minority holder when they fixed their cosy clubland marriage with GrandMet. But it was a ludicrous affectation to think they could keep the frightful Froggie out of this society arrangement. Guinness should have been diplomatic, suspicious and fixed M Arnault beforehand. Many outsiders assumed his long-term goal was to gain control of Guinness's spirits business, even if other Guinness directors did not.

That would have needed a sophistication Guinness lacked in dealing with M Arnault. This naivety left him with a powerful mobile holding in Guinness, which has only a captive stake in a subsidiary of LVMH.

M Arnault had every right to feel peeved when he was denied the influence a big investor and

long-term partner might expect to have on the Continent. Don't blame him for playing the Anglo-Saxon game in response.

If LVMH succeeds in swapping enough of its Guinness holding to end up with 10 per cent of each of both bride and groom, he can present his own alternative plans to each group of shareholders. These are about as unattractive to Guinness and GrandMet management as it is possible to imagine. LVMH would merge the three groups' wine and spirits in a way that would give M Arnault effective control, thanks to Guinness's captive stake in Moët-Hennessy. The rest of Guinness and GrandMet would be broken up.

This scheme is not, however, without attractions to Guinness or GrandMet investors. And it looks like the management may even be softening its stance, hinting that the food business might be demerged after the drinks businesses are put to-

gether. The drawback is that investors would become powerless outsiders in an Arnault-controlled spirits company. Unless *les rosbifs* get smarter fast, they may be left with two alternatives: to rework the LVMH scheme to remove M Arnault's control of the spirits combine or to pay through the nose to buy out LVMH's brandy business.

An unfinished revolution

Apparently, James Ross believes that The Littlewoods Organisation can be run just like any other company, regardless of its ownership structure. But how many company chairmen have to present their results to 34 family members who fly in from all parts of the world (not including Liverpool, of course) and then huddle together in factious so that they can row about the future of the empire?

Mr Ross has had a year to try to sort out the Littlewoods structure, and has made some progress. He has realised that in home shopping direct selling is better than through agents (as Next did nearly a decade ago),

that you should carry the same range in both shops and catalogues (as Next did half a dozen years ago) and that the clothes stores should concentrate on one brand (in a sector Next would not touch). Having failed to gain a decent price when he "market tested" Littlewoods stores — that £540 million offer from CVC was actually worth only £460 million — his new plan is to slice up the large Littlewoods and rent the spare bits to other retailers. This worked on Oxford Street, where the other retailer was Next. But Grimsby is not Oxford Street, and other retailers are not Next.

Mr Ross is to become part-time in September. A float is as far away as ever and it will be up to Barry Gibson, who joins in September from BAA to finalise — or ditch — Mr Ross's plans. Things are moving in the right direction, but Mr Gibson will inherit a half-finished revolution.

Virtual gunboats

WITHOUT naming names, Malaysia's Prime Minister has accused George Soros of engineering runs on currencies of ASEAN countries because they admitted democratic Burma. Mr Soros can speak for himself, but it is surprising that this does not happen more often. A run on the currency is safer than sending gunboats, costless if handled skilfully and should undermine leaders of the victim country — the ideal capitalist weapon.

Buoyant SB clinches cholesterol drug rights

By PAUL DURMAN

SMITHKLINE BEECHAM has strengthened its portfolio of cardiovascular drugs by securing US marketing rights to the latest in the fast-growing class of cholesterol-lowering agents known as statins.

The company announced the deal to co-promote Baycol — developed by Bayer Corporation, the US arm of the German pharmaceutical group — alongside strong second-quarter results that showed underlying pre-tax profits growing by 16 per cent to £398 million. Although the strength of the pound cost SB £42 million in the quarter, its shares resumed their sharp climb this year, rising 49p to £12.19p. SB intends to split its shares in two to make the price less "weighty".

Jan Leschly, SB's chief executive, said the US market for statins was already worth \$4 billion (£2.4 billion) and was the fastest growing therapeutic area, because of the potential for reducing the future healthcare costs of treating heart disease. Bayer wanted access to SB's marketing muscle, including its 2,500 US salespeople, to help it to gain critical mass.

Zocor, Merck's statin, is one of the world's top three drugs, with sales last year of \$1.2 billion. Lipitor, a rival being sold by Warner-Lambert and Pfizer, achieved quarterly sales of \$150 million within six months of its launch last January. Baycol will be launched early next year. Although SB

would not reveal the terms of its deal with Bayer, Mr Leschly said: "For us to take on something like this, it has to be very valuable for us."

SB's profits, which for the half year were 18 per cent ahead at £857 million at constant exchange rates, were again driven by its newer products, led by Serostat, the anti-depressant sold as Paxil in the US. Sales of Serostat-Paxil rose by a third to £211 million in the second quarter. In total, new drug sales were up 42 per cent at £382 million. 36 per cent of total pharmaceutical division sales of £1.1 billion.

Nigel Barnes, analyst at Merrill Lynch, said: "The underlying picture is incredibly strong and puts Smith-

Kline Beecham in the top tier of its global peer group."

Jean-Pierre Garnier, head of the pharmaceuticals business, made a strong defence of Diversified Pharmaceutical Services, the US drug distribution business acquired for £1.5 billion three years ago. Eli Lilly, the US drugs group, recently had to make a large write-off against a similar business. Dr Garnier said Diversified provided much better information about drug usage than Lilly's PCS, and was providing increased sales.

SB is paying a second-quarter dividend of 4.41p a share, comprising a conventional dividend of 1.96p and a foreign income dividend of 2.45p.

Tempus, page 28

Modest start for Billiton

BILLITON, the mining and metals group demerged out of Gencor of South Africa, made a modest start to life on Stock Exchange yesterday. The group floated at 220p, valuing it at £4.6 billion and in the middle of the forecast range, and rose another 1p in open market trading to close at 221p.

Billiton is the second largest mining group listed on the London stock market, behind Rio Tinto, and is expected to join the FTSE 100 index of leading companies in September.

The company, which will have a dual listing in London and Johannesburg, raised £843.7 million from the flotation by placing 375 million new shares. At the moment, more than half its operations are associated with aluminium production.

CU expands key French business

By ADAM JONES

COMMERCIAL UNION is expanding its key French operations with the Fr1.29 billion (£126 million) purchase of a majority stake in a fund management and financial advice group listed in Paris.

It announced the deal after revealing that new life and pension business in France substantially underperformed other territories in the first half of 1997. The insurer blamed restructuring and general election uncertainty.

Through its French life assurance subsidiary, Abellie vie, Commercial Union has signed an agreement to buy a 55.8 per cent stake in Union Financière de France (UFF), taking its total holding from 11.7 per cent to 67.5 per cent.

The deal is expected to be earnings enhancing in the first year. CU is also waiting for regulatory approval of an

earlier foray into the French life market last April.

CU is purchasing the holding from Crédit Agricole Indosuez. Regulatory approvals are expected in the third quarter of 1997.

The deal will be funded from existing resources within Abellie vie, which was bought by Commercial Union in 1994. UFF has £2.3 billion under management and a network of 880 financial advisers. Last year, it contributed 10 per cent of Abellie vie's sales and made a pre-tax profit of Fr267 million.

Commercial Union expected sales in France to remain dull this year, and possibly into next year, because of internal restructuring.

Total new business was up 21 per cent to £1.584 billion. CU shares fell 19p to 675p.

Tempus, page 28

CTR makes first profit since 1992

By GEORGE SIVELL

CENTRAL Transport Rental, the former Tiphook transport company, has clocked up its first pre-tax profit since 1992, earning £5.8 million in the year to April 30, against a £181 million loss the previous year.

The group's interest bill fell from £41.7 million to £24.7 million and there are no exceptional items, against last year's £138.8 million charge. Under terms of last year's financial restructuring, CTR cannot pay a dividend until at least 2003. However, the company believes that if it has two or three more good years it will be able to have another restructuring that would permit a dividend. Its shares languished at 6p yesterday.

Sales fell by 17 per cent, to £111 million, during the year. Operating profits from continuing operations fell from £17.1 million to £15.2 million.

Hambros drops job of chief executive

By ADAM JONES

HAMBROS, still under fire for its part in the disgraced bid for the Co-operative Wholesale Society (CWS), will not be appointing a new group chief executive to succeed Sir Chips Keswick.

With the retirement of Lord Hambro as chairman at yesterday's annual general meeting, Sir Chips became the new executive chairman. He said that a group chief executive would not be necessary because his full-time role will be supported by an adequate executive presence at divisional level, which includes the separately quoted Hambro Countrywide estate agency and Hambro Insurance Services.

Lord Hambro told shareholders that the bank had acted "quickly and decisively" when the CWS scandal broke. Hambros received and distributed confidential CWS documents in its capacity as adviser to Andrew Regan's Galileo bid vehicle.

A response by the Securities and Futures Authority to a report by Norton Rose, the law firm, on the CWS affair, could arrive within the next two months, Sir Chips said.

Regent Pacific, the Hong Kong fund manager that owns 3 per cent of Hambros, has been agitating for top-level change. However, the board was not challenged on recent problems at the meeting.



David Telling, chairman of Mitie, the business support services group that has just cleaned up the Ibrox Park football ground in Glasgow, reported a 30 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £8.2 million in the year ended March 31. Total dividends are increased 25 per cent to 2p a share

Menzies loses £5m as ELC suffers

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM
RETAIL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MENZIES, the retail and distribution group, suffered a £5.3 million drop in profits last year due to continuing problems at its Early Learning Centre chain.

David McKay, group chief executive, said sales at ELC are still falling and are down 5.5 per cent on a like-for-like basis in the first few weeks of this year.

He hopes to appoint a new head of ELC within the next two months to replace Ian Duncan, chief executive, and Andrew Crankshaw, managing director, who left earlier this month.

In the year to May 3 pre-tax profits were £30.6 million compared with £35.9 million a year earlier. Profits at ELC alone fell by about £7 million.

In an effort to boost sales, the company is to sell ELC toys at 110 branches of Sainsbury's supermarkets by December. The ELC catalogue is also to have 300 toys added for autumn and winter. Mr McKay said he expects ELC to begin to show profits growth again next year.

The company has also signed a deal to open 70 branches of John Menzies newsagents at London Underground stations. The first two are set to open at Baker Street and Finchley Road.

The shares fell to a year low of 422p, down 11p on the day.

GGT takes £8m charge on BDDP

By JASON NISSE

THE costs of integrating BDDP, the Anglo-French advertising group bought for £100 million, pushed GGT Group into losses in spite of the best performance by its original businesses.

Mark Baylis, GGT finance director, said that costs — including integrating two sales promotion companies, moving offices, and paying £200,000 to Jan Hall, strategy director, as compensation for loss of office — contributed to an £8.1 million charge.

Without these costs and a £578,000 profit from the sale of a stake in a Swiss agency, GGT profits rose 32 per cent to

£7.5 million in the year to April 30. This included only two months' contribution from BDDP. Earnings per share were unchanged, due to the amount of shares issued to buy BDDP, but a final dividend of 3.9p, payable on October 2, makes a total for the year of 6.2p, up 7 per cent.

GGT struck its deal to buy BDDP, which is based in Paris but also owns a large agency in New York, at an exchange rate of Fr9.2 to the pound. Yesterday the rate was Fr10.2.

Mr Baylis said the strength of the pound would be an issue this year, but

added that most of the group's debts had been transferred into dollars and francs. GGT is pressing to improve margins, which stand at 10 per cent of turnover. This year's target is 11 per cent.

Mr Baylis said that the group was working on turning the GGT and BDDP businesses into an international advertising network along the lines of Saatchi & Saatchi. However, that was likely to involve buying minority stakes held by the managements of some of the BDDP businesses, which could cost £13 million over the next two years.

DEARING.

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BA shares slide as broker backs high-flyer Lufthansa

BRITISH AIRWAYS was the worst performer among the top 100 companies after running into a spot of turbulence and dropping 34.1p to 628p.

As almost £50 million was being wiped from BA's stock market price tag of £6.64 billion, shares of Lufthansa, its biggest European rival, were doing well in Frankfurt. It followed the decision of Deutsche Morgan Grenfell to reverse its recommendations for the two companies. Juergen Pieper has moved from "overweight" to "neutral" in BA, while going from "neutral" in Lufthansa to "overweight".

Pieper said his decision was based on currency factors. The strong pound is proving bad news for BA, while a weak mark is benefiting Lufthansa. He says that Lufthansa is also catching up fast in terms of earnings growth.

The equity market closed just below its best of the day. It was encouraged by another solid start to trading on Wall Street, where investors waited anxiously for Alan Greenspan, Chairman of the Federal Reserve, to give his testimony on the US economy.

The FTSE 100 index closed 41.0 up at 4,846.7 in thin trading that saw fewer than 900 million shares change hands.

LVMH's switch operation out of Guinness, down 9.1p to 588p, and into Grand Metropolitan, up 1p to 622p, set prices racing, albeit briefly. BZW was charged with adding to LVMH's 0.37 per cent holding in GrandMet and paying for it by selling part of its 14 per cent holding in Guinness. The switch operation saw BZW bidding institutions up to 630p in GrandMet, while offering them Guinness at 600p, or less.

A total of 118 million GrandMet shares changed hands, indicating that BZW may have picked up just under 3 per cent of the stock and raised LVMH's stake to around 9 per cent. Its stake in Guinness appears to have been reduced to just under 12 per cent.

Takeover favourite Commercial Union enjoyed an early mark-up on the back of some encouraging new business figures. But the acquisition of Abellie, the French life assurance company, for £125 million, left the price 19p down at 675.1p by the close.

As expected, second-quarter



Brian Gilbertson, of newly listed Billiton, up 1p at 221p

profits from SmithKline Beecham showed all the scars associated with sterling's strength. Sales were down and profits only marginally ahead, but an encouraging statement about new products and the proposed share split boosted the price, which closed 49p better at £12.19. Glaxo Wellcome, reporting next week, also put on 19.1p at £13.39. The group's

Naramig migraine treatment has been approved by the European Union.

The better than expected profits at Sangeos, the bus and train operator, produced an early mark-up in the shares before relapsing to close 13p cheaper at 724p.

News of the 25 per cent rise in sales so far this year was the signal for the profit-takers to move into Carpetright, down

22p at 541.1p. Elsewhere among the retailers, Kingfisher

dropped 13p to 712.1p, reflecting growing concern about French government proposals to raise corporation tax to 40 per cent. Next touched

724.1p before rallying to close 1p firmer at 733p. David

Keens, finance director, has sold 10,000 shares at 770p.

Hercules Property Services fell 13.1p to 246p after

making an agreed £8.3 million bid for rival property management agency David Glass

Associates, up 6p at 133.1p.

Further write-offs are forecast at Shani Group, 27p off at 68p, and a warning that full-year

losses are set to rise above £1 million saw Vision Group

plunge 42p to 139p.

In futures, the September

left Copyright 7p cheaper at 61.1p, but the group remains

bullish. There is no such confidence about the future at

WVF Electrical, down 38p at 622p, where Richard Rose,

managing director, has reported a deterioration in market

conditions during the past two months.

UBS, the broker, has joined the growing fan club at

Burford Holdings, the property group that recently re-

purchased the Trocadero site in Piccadilly. The shares were

up 2p at 118.1p.

Billiton made a cautious

start to first-time trading after a placing at 220p. The shares

of the mineral extractor opened at 222p and touched

228p before closing at 221p, a premium of 1p.

□ GILT-EDGED: The market spent a quiet session, with

investors biding their time ahead of today's £2 billion

Bank of England auction. Trading conditions in the cash

market proved thin, with prices clawing back the previous

day's losses.

In futures, the September

series of the long gilt closed

£152 higher at £141.16, as

60,000 contracts were completed.

Treasury 8 per cent 2015 put

on £5 at £101.15, while Treasury 8 per cent 2007 was

three ticks firmer at £102.12.

□ NEW YORK: Wall Street

shares were higher at midday

as traders and investors awaited the Humphrey-Hawkins

testimony on the economy by Alan Greenspan. Federal Reserve

Chairman, with an optimism tinged with caution. The

Dow Jones industrial average was

47.85 points higher at 7,954.57.

436p, and Southern Electric

1.5p easier at 460p.

Nigel Hawkins at Yama-

ichi, says PowerGen is well

placed to undertake further

share buybacks, while similar

criteria may also apply to Southern.

NIE, in spite of a tough

transmission and distribution

price review, boasted net

cash of about £70 million in

March. But he is less keen on those heavily

geared companies such as

National Grid, 1p shy at 255p, and British

Energy, all square at 164p, which is

vulnerable to weak power

prices.

Top of its "buy" list is

PowerGen, up 6p at 787p, along with Northern

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EDGED: The market spent a quiet

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EDGED: The market spent a quiet

Lessons from history clouding decision on aerospace empire

Oliver August examines a clash between differing business ideologies

Historians have never agreed on what shapes history. Are human affairs driven by individuals — heroes as well as villains — or by historical forces beyond man's control? Are we started by evil rulers or are they inevitable clashes of rival ideologies?

Amateur historians would do well to turn their gaze to the aerospace industry. Today the European Commission will rule whether the \$14 billion (£8.35 billion) merger of Boeing and McDonnell Douglas is a breach of competition rules. The merger will create the world's biggest aircraft maker, employing 200,000 people. Smoke signals from Brussels point towards an emphatic "non" in the deal, barring a dramatic last-minute compromise.

Karel Van Miert, the Competition Commissioner, has been railing against the tie-up ever since it was announced last December. He wants to impose crippling fines on Boeing to help Airbus, the European consortium that includes British Aerospace.

Boeing has done some tough talking of its own. It recruited Bill Clinton and his Administration to push the merger through. For weeks, officials from all sides conducted endless meetings in Brussels. Recently, the words "trade war" were introduced into the debate. Nobody can say who first mentioned war. But suddenly transatlantic trade relations are now on the brink of conflict. Who is at fault?

President Chirac of France has backed Mr Van Miert. Al Gore, the US Vice-President, intervened with both eyes fixed on his domestic political career. Yesterday Klaus Kinkel, the German Foreign Minister, made a last-minute phone call to Madeleine Albright, his opposite number in Washington.

A. J. P. Taylor, the historian, argued that the First World War was caused by train timetables. The Kaiser and his generals knew that Russia needed a month to transport its soldiers by train to Central Europe. This gave Germany a month to bulldoze through Belgium to knock out France before dealing with the angry



Karel Van Miert could prompt a trade war if he tries to halt the merger



Harry Stonecipher, left, and Philip Condit are the executives behind the deal

bear. Historians know this strategy as the Schlieffen plan. Conspiracy theorists in Brussels today do not have to look far to find a Schlieffen plan originating from Boeing. The merger is the culmination of a consolidation process in the US aerospace industry that is threatening the survival of European manufacturers.

In the space of three years, the top 15 US aerospace companies have been welded into three conglomerates dominating the world market. The consolidation process was kick-started by a single event. In 1993 Les Aspin, then the US Defence Secretary, invited the heads of the top

aerospace companies for dinner at the White House. The purpose of the dinner — now known as The Last Supper — was simple. The guests were told by Aspin that there were too many of them. To maintain competitiveness and to drive down US Government procurement costs, the companies were encouraged to merge. The Clinton Administration would waive antitrust objections, the bosses were assured.

They needed little encouragement. A merger frenzy ensued. Time-tables also played a part. American manufacturers knew Europe would not be ready to follow their lead. Tie-ups across European borders were slowly becoming acceptable.

Airbus, although stumbling from one banana skin to the next, was becoming a threat to Boeing in the early 1990s.

At Maastricht in 1992 the Europeans resolved to bring together their nations, their currencies and their industries. But not until 1993. By acting quickly, the Americans could gain a headstart of several years.

Conspiracy theories are clearly being harboured by Airbus. At the Paris air show last month Jean Pierson, the managing director, accused the Americans of covert activities to undermine European manufacturers. He made two specific

allegations. First, McDonnell Douglas had purposefully stopped developing new civil aircraft. This put the company in a weak market position, leaving the US Government no choice but to approve the merger if it didn't want to lose tens of thousands of jobs.

Secondly, McDonnell made its own position even worse by "scuttling" a key military aircraft contract from the US Government. M Pierson said the company conspired to lose its bid to build the \$170 billion Joint Strike Fighter so that it could join Boeing's rival bid.

These allegations have never been endorsed by Mr Van Miert. But he most certainly does not share the view of the US Federal Trade Commission which approved the merger unconditionally earlier this month. The FTC said competition would not be lessened substantially.

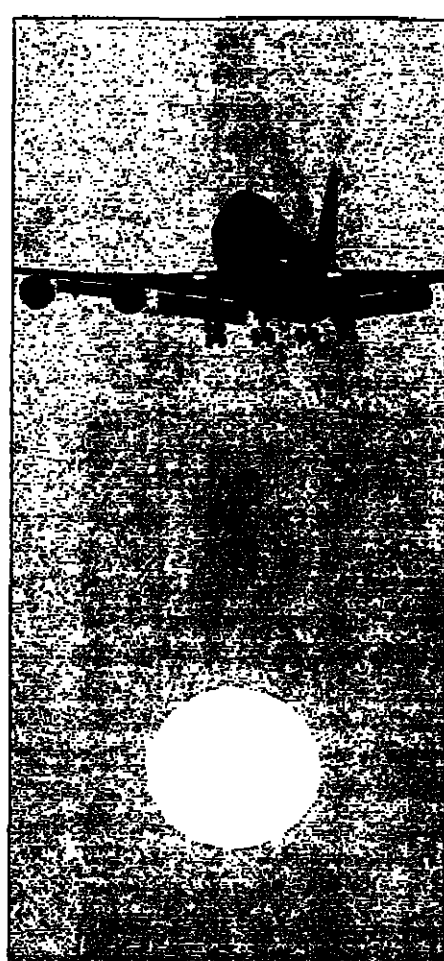
The American view will appeal to all those who believe that history is not just made by a few heroes and villains. To the FTC, the merger is only another ripple in the tidal wave of consolidation and globalisation sweeping the markets. The higher forces of capitalism are at work, it seems to suggest.

The American case was argued yesterday in the bible of capitalism, *The Wall Street Journal*. Laura D'Andrea Tyson, a former economic adviser to President Clinton and now a professor at Berkeley, wrote: "The Europeans are trying to protect Airbus, a firm whose successful transition from infancy to mature competitor was bought with generous subsidies from several European governments."

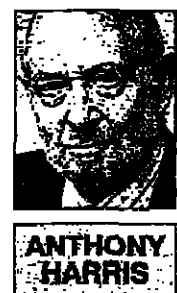
To the Americans, the Boeing dispute is a conflict between capitalism and interventionist ideologies. Last night neither side had given up hope that a peaceful solution could still be found. But the threat of a trade war remains. The Commission could impose a fine of up to 10 per cent of turnover on the merged company. It has also said it could confiscate new Boeing aircraft delivered to European customers.

President Clinton has threatened to retaliate against European manufacturers in America. The next step in the dispute after the Commission's decision is Boeing's shareholders' ballot on the merger. Boeing, however, may have to delay the ballot. The 164-page proxy filing states "the obligations of Boeing and McDonnell Douglas to consummate the merger are subject to receiving confirmation from the European Commission". In a last-ditch attempt to save the ballot and the merger, Boeing delivered a revised submission to the Commission yesterday evening.

Whether a trade war will flare up is now in Mr Van Miert's hands. Drawing one last historical analogy, it could be argued that the merged US aerospace industry has a greater global trade reach today than the British Empire before its decline in the early 1900s. After the merger new Boeing will be responsible for building nine out of ten civil aircraft, with an annual turnover of \$50 billion. It is hardly surprising that Europe, with its half a million aerospace jobs, is feeling under pressure.



Europe may confiscate Boeing aircraft



ANTHONY HARRIS

The seal of approval that Brown could do without

Gordon Brown faced the Commons Treasury Select Committee yesterday, with the glowing endorsement by the International Monetary Fund of his policies still echoing around the corridors of Whitehall. It is a safe bet that he will not apologise for that support, but he should. The IMF has a truly appalling track record of policy judgment.

In the old days of the Bretton Woods agreement, when the IMF had the task of financing economic adjustment, its working definition of sound policy was anything that threatened no trouble for IMF officials. This bureaucratic bias could be forgiven but for its disastrous results. The IMF was concerned only with balance of payments "problems", which are a symptom, not a disease, and often reflected

there, restoring higher rates on the sound argument that a building society windfall is just that — a one-off event whose effects will soon pass. It remains possible, of course, that Brown is taking his lead from Machiavelli rather than Savonarola: for one result of the present situation is that business sentiment is suddenly rallying behind the idea of our joining the EMU, and soon — which is also Brown's treasured wish. As a result we are increasingly likely to join a shaky enterprise on the wrong terms, at the wrong time and for the wrong reasons.

The risks are painfully obvious, but the rewards are beginning to look a little more tempting. For inside an EMU a British boom will be no more worrying than is a boom in Yorkshire with the British economy: forget about the output gap. And interest rates will be set in a continental context: forget about windfalls.

The gain business years for a stable exchange rate, is an illusion: the euro does not look prospectively stable. But if this is the only escape from a Brown straitjacket, I could even learn to like the idea.

‘The IMF has a truly appalling track record of policy judgment’

Champneys fattened for market

A once-portly peer is expanding the top people's health farm into a chain. Dominic Walsh reports

For years, Champneys has enjoyed a reputation as the top people's health farm, a place where Denis Roussos rubbed shoulders with the likes of Roy George, Cilla Black and Diana, Princess of Wales. The problem was that its finances were not so healthy.

The appointment two years ago of Viscount Thurso, a somewhat overweight former hotelier, seemed to staff merely the latest unsettling management change. Allan and Tania Wheway, who put the former Rothschild mansion on the map in the 1970s, were ejected in 1989 by Guinness. They returned in 1992 in a consortium that bought out the brewer for a reported £7 million.

Fitness & Leisure Holdings, a consortium of Middle Eastern investors, took control three years ago. Within 15 months, Jim McAvoy, the chief executive, had become a casualty, and Lord Thurso,

who had previously run Cliveden and East Sussex National Golf Club, was drafted in to turn things around.

The regime instituted by the Old Etonian peer has made Champneys almost as fit as he has become. "Before I arrived, I weighed 16 stone, but now I'm three stone lighter," he says. "I didn't want clients to come to Champneys and think the bloke who ran it was fat."

The company has cut its losses from £2.3 million to £750,000, and the £20-a-night Tiring resort (there is also a Champneys in London's Piccadilly) has moved into profit.

"We had a huge head office with 30 people, many of whom were not contributing very much. We took about £1 million of costs out of the business through reductions in person-

nel and through a more realistic approach to what we should be investing time and money in," Lord Thurso says.

Initially, investment went into staff training. The next step was to upgrade facilities, but a barrier had to be overcome. The Wheways had begun Healthshare, a timeshare giving members a week a year of Tiring for life. To regain control of the freshhold, Lord Thurso offered Healthshare holders £4 million of preference stock redeemable after ten years with an option to convert to ordinary shares if the company were floated. They would keep membership benefits.

At an extraordinary meeting in April, the move was approved with a majority of more than 90 per cent. A week later, a £6.5 million refurbishment

began. The work, most of which will be finished by Christmas, will keep the number of bedrooms at about 80 — "It's very much about being better rather than bigger," says Lord Thurso — and will add a women's spa, 17 more treatment rooms and a new kitchen and dining room.

Lord Thurso says that bringing the original spa up to scratch and introducing the latest health treatments is vital to the company's expansion aims. He said: "Champneys is an incredibly powerful name and it is essential that Tiring is kept pristine and maintained as a centre of excellence. That's where we will develop all the things that we will put elsewhere."

When Lord Thurso joined, there were Champneys clubs in London, at Gleneagles and on P&O's *Oriana*. The Gleneagles and P&O agreements were quickly terminated.

In London, Lord Thurso has renegotiated what was a management contract with Forte's Le Meridien hotel, the site's owner, and signed a 20-year lease with no premium. About £1.5 million is to be pumped into the 40,000 sq ft premises to create the blueprint for development of Champneys clubs in European cities.

The first continental club will be in Brussels, on the Avenue Louise, and is due to open by the end of next year. In a joint venture with a local property developer, Champneys will pay for a £1.9 million fitting out. Sites in Paris, Frankfurt, Milan and Barcelona are being considered.

Lord Thurso aims to assemble a chain of up to eight clubs worth about £30 million before seeking a stock market listing.

oversee the City, now known as super-SIB, will be... Damien. This is because of a joke circulating in banking circles that has the regulator already marked with the Number of the Beast, 666. The first six is how many months the super-SIB has to consult market players over the new regulatory structure. The second is how many months it will take to put that structure in place. The third is how many years before it all starts working properly.

THE wit of Brian Souter at Stagecoach. In a clear swipe at Richard Branson's plans for luxury railways, he said: "They [the passengers] just want the train to turn up on time. They are not expecting a sauna on the train." Which only proves that Souter has not set foot in one of his own carriages this past week or so.

Booked in A RECORD batch of British businessmen makes it into the new *International Who's Who* published this week — 30 in all, in part because of this year's concentration on British success in fashion and the cinema. Welcome to Alistair Ross Goobey, who lists his experience in broadcasting — yes, that would make sense. Welcome, Danny Rosenkranz, the Danny de Vito-lookalike chief executive of BOC, who entered a cruel world and was promptly

christened Franklin, we learn. Welcome Archie Norman, to whose entry — chairman of Asda, vice-chairman of the Conservative Party — further glories must surely be added as the years progress.

A disappointing selection on the leisure interests front — not a piranha-breeder among them, nobody refighting the Napoleonic Wars in their garage. I am always surprised how many executives feel the need to list music, travel and gardening as their main fascinations, as though the rest of us never quite get around to such pleasures. Better than the American executives, though, who won't admit to any leisure time at all.

MARTIN WALLER

Rosenkranz from Franklin to Danny

UU ripples

WHISPERS circulate that not all the United Utilities non-executives were unanimous about the sacking of Monday of Brian Staples, the chief executive. This was the strict company line. So shareholders at Friday's annual meeting should not miss the chance to ask each to confirm, individually, that they were in favour. You can forget Sir Peter Middleton, deputy chairman of Barclays, who started the whole thing off.

Probably also four Merseyside worthies, fishing in the same pond as Sir Des-

mond Pitcher, the chairman. Jane Newell, from the Home Office, is chairman of the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. Eric Clark, a former boss at local employer BICC Cables and a director of the Merseyside Development Corporation. Two more were inherited from the North West Water Authority. Which leaves my old friend and recent arrival John Seed, ex-South Western Electricity. He was unavailable yesterday, but he might be your best chance. Incidentally, I hear Staples's sacking was even more brutal than it sounded. Monday was his first day back in the office. There are some companies where it is always risky taking a holiday.

ON JULY 28 Harrods will be one of the first shops anywhere to stock — wait for it — Versace Cosmetics. Let us hope the tragic death of this towering cultural icon does not spoil the occasion. "To celebrate, we are offering the first 50 customers that telephone us a chance to enjoy a Versace make-over," says Harrods.

Lost chance

THE Skipton Building Society's mandatory levy on carpetbaggers — each new

account-holder with this prime takeover candidate over the past three weeks has been required to pay £25 to charity — has now raised £100,000, on 4,000 accounts. A pity the Nationwide, meeting tomorrow to decide its fate, did not have the same idea. The society has never said how many carpetbaggers have clambered on board, but new arrivals have been running at five times their normal rate. Some estimates suggest as many as 100,000 extra accounts may have been started since open season was declared on the Nationwide — or £2.5 million to charity.

Marked off

I HAVE it on very good authority that the most likely name for the new regulator to



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هكذا من الأصل

Equities extend rally

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE
10.50	10.40	Heavenly Brew Ltd	10.45	+0.10	+1.0	15.2
10.50	10.40	Heavenly Brew Ltd	10.45	+0.10	+1.0	15.2

BANKS

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE
10.50	10.40	Heavenly Brew Ltd	10.45	+0.10	+1.0	15.2
10.50	10.40	Heavenly Brew Ltd	10.45	+0.10	+1.0	15.2

BREWERS, PUBS & REST

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE
10.50	10.40	Heavenly Brew Ltd	10.45	+0.10	+1.0	15.2
10.50	10.40	Heavenly Brew Ltd	10.45	+0.10	+1.0	15.2

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE
10.50	10.40	Heavenly Brew Ltd	10.45	+0.10	+1.0	15.2
10.50	10.40	Heavenly Brew Ltd	10.45	+0.10	+1.0	15.2

ELECTRICITY

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE
10.50	10.40	Heavenly Brew Ltd	10.45	+0.10	+1.0	15.2
10.50	10.40	Heavenly Brew Ltd	10.45	+0.10	+1.0	15.2

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE
10.50	10.40	Heavenly Brew Ltd	10.45	+0.10	+1.0	15.2
10.50	10.40	Heavenly Brew Ltd	10.45	+0.10	+1.0	15.2

BUILDING MATERIALS

High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	PE
10.50	10.40	Heavenly Brew Ltd	10.45	+0.10	+1.0	15.2
10.50	10.40	Heavenly Brew Ltd	10.45	+0.10	+1.0	15.2

ENGINEERING

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Sex, lies and a French film-maker

Carol Allen talks to director Martine Dugowson about the yuppie characters of her latest movie

Despite its title, *Portraits Chinois* has absolutely nothing to do with Chinese painting. The second feature film by the French director Martine Dugowson is a sympathetic comedy about a group of thirtysomething Parisian yuppies working in the glamorous worlds of fashion and film-making and the problems they get into with their relationships.

"I wanted to make a film about lies in relationships," Dugowson explains in her husky, low-pitched voice. "All the relationships between each person in the group. It may be that their lies are what cement their love and their friendship. The question of the film is, when is it OK to lie and when is it damaging?"

To describe something as *Chinois* is the French equivalent of the English expressions 'double Dutch' or 'all Greek to me'. The characters in the film are portraits of people who are unusual and difficult to understand.

The two young Jewish women whose friendship was traced in Dugowson's debut film, *Mina Tannenbaum*, were both aspiring to glamorous professions: art and journalism. With one exception the group in *Portraits Chinois* have either achieved success or will have done so by the end of the film.

"Many people in the capital cities of capitalist countries — London, Paris and so on — aspire to these sorts of jobs and become victims of that world," Dugowson says. "They want power and acknowledgement from others. Ethel in *Mina* didn't have a vocation but she wanted to be a journalist just to give herself glamour. And the media encourage this aspiration. I wanted to show that people who are in this world are not necessarily very happy. Everyone has problems."

Three of the members of the group are played by actors who were in *Mina Tannenbaum*: Romane Bohringer, Elsa Zylberstein and Jean-Philippe Ecoffey, all of whom Dugowson wanted to work with again. Ecoffey's girl-

friend Ada, a high-flyer in the fashion world who loses her job and her man to a Bohringer character, is an Englishwoman, played by Helena Bonham-Carter. Dugowson decided to make the character English so she would stand apart from the others, and admits one reason for casting Bonham-Carter was because of her 19th-century Merchant-Ivory image, which accords with her personal view of what Englishwomen are like: "An image close to the Brontë sisters," as she puts it.

There is another British aspect to the film in that both



Martine Dugowson: "We all have problems"

Channel 4 and British Screen, as the UK administrator of the European Co-Production Fund, put money into it. Although the main thrust of Channel 4 commissions is British films and film-makers, David Aukin, who heads this area, is wary of their movies becoming too insular.

"I think it's very important that we always have room and courage to support film-makers from another culture, who I think would be of interest to British audiences," Aukin says. "Every year we've commissioned a French film. There was the Kieslowski *Trilogie*, for example, and this year it was *Portraits Chinois*."

For British Screen, investing in European co-productions is

not just about the commercial and artistic potential of a particular project, but also about cementing relationships with companies in other countries who will then invest reciprocally in British-made movies. In return for British Screen's support of *Portraits Chinois*, for example, the film's main backer, UGC Images in France, agreed to invest heavily in *Victory*, a big-budget adaptation by British director Mark Peploe of Joseph Conrad's novel.

As for the English character in Dugowson's film, Bonham-Carter has described her as "Martine's alter ego." When pressed on this, Dugowson pushes back her long dark hair and retreats behind her ready laugh. In fact, ask her anything which threatens to reveal something too personal, even her age (thirtysomething like her characters, at a guess), and she evades the question charmingly but firmly, which makes her perhaps something of a *portrait Chinois* herself.

What little she will reveal includes the fact that her parents are Lithuanian Jews, who fled to Paris just before the Second World War and found work in the garment industry — the rag trade end, rather than the *haute couture* world of their daughter's film. Dugowson's Jewish heritage comes out in her work, overtly in *Mina* but quite unexpectedly in *Portraits*, in a scene where Ada suddenly reveals her Jewishness in a tirade against the way the French treated her people during the war, reflecting the real-life experiences of Dugowson's parents and their contemporaries.

One of France's small but growing band of women directors, Dugowson has also acted as cinematographer on a handful of low-budget feature films, but admits she found hauling a camera around heavy work and creatively unsatisfying. Writing and directing her own films is far more to her taste.

"I like to play, like a child," she says. "Making films, it's playing, having fun."

Portraits Chinois opens on Friday



"The silent Garbo does not act in the conventional sense": here she is seen with her best leading man, John Gilbert, in *Flesh and the Devil* (1927)

The grooming of Garbo

At Bologna's festival of cinema history Geoff Brown discovers some long-forgotten gems of the silent screen

Film buffs have long known that Greta Garbo, being of good Scandinavian stock, had rather large feet for a Hollywood glamour star. But now it appears that her feet were of clay. At least that was the impression gathered at the latest edition of Il Cinema Ritrovato, Bologna's invaluable annual festival celebrating cinema history, jointly organised by the film archives of Bologna and Amsterdam.

There she was, day after day, smiling, despairing, immaculate in gowns that led the eye upwards to her swan's neck and wondrous profile. The beautiful woman, though, was trapped in scenarios of such similarity and imbecility that they caused almost as much exasperation as the blockbuster nonsense of today.

The Bologna organisers showed all her silent films

except *The Divine Woman* of 1928, which only survives as a ten-minute chunk. It seemed a good idea, for last year's survey of another screen icon, Valentino, offered multiple pleasures. But Garbo's American films, made for MGM — even in the 1920s the most formula-driven of Hollywood concerns — do not offer Valentino's variety.

Typically, she begins the stories married to someone wealthy, old and staid. Sometimes she has a roving eye; sometimes she is dutiful. It does not matter. On a train, at a ball, at an art gallery, she meets someone young and dashing. All it takes is one piercing look from one pair of eyes to another, and they forge a tumultuous, once-in-a-lifetime love. Since the husband's obduracy or the social scene does not easily allow for a divorce, five reels of exquisite suffering follow.

The plot pattern contains plenty of potential. You can fit *Anna Karenina* into it, as proved by Garbo's silent version of Tolstoy's novel in 1927. This was retitled *Love* to allow MGM to advertise the movie as "John Gilbert and Greta Garbo in *Love*", which they were widely supposed to be.

But there is something about the MGM house style that drains Garbo's films of life and emotions. Leo, the studio's trademark lion, signposts the way to an escapist world where beach houses are adorned with staircases fit for Versailles, everyone parties, nobody works. No matter where the stories take place — Moscow, New York, Europe's hot spots — we remain spiritually imprisoned in the studio at Culver City.

Luckily, our prison sentence had its fascinating side. Today's movie stars tend to arrive on screen fully grown, from television or the music world. But in Garbo's silent films you can see the goddess being created, carved by image-makers and dietitians from the pudgy physique of a young Swedish girl called Greta Gustafsson.

In the earliest publicity film



6 In Garbo's silent films you can see the goddess being created, carved by the image-makers and dietitians

she made in 1921, modelling clothes in a department store, she is a round bundle wrapped in hideous furs. She looks like somebody's mother. In fact, she was sweet 16. Even when taken under the wing of Sweden's leading director, Mauritz Stiller, and given a role in his epic *Gösta Berlings Saga*, she still looked in a raw state: thick hair unhelpfully arranged, inelegant teeth, upper arms in serious need of sheltering behind fabric.

Yet she had a spark, and an intensity in her gaze that the camera loved. The film that clinched Hollywood's interest was the social drama *Die Freudlose Gasse* (*The Joyless Street*), made with G.W. Pabst, and shown in Bologna in a new restoration from the Munich Film Museum, collated from five different prints, stretching the running time to an unwise three hours.

Talent-hunting in Europe, MGM's Louis B. Mayer bagged Garbo and Stiller and set his studio to work remodeling the actress. Fat disappeared. Cheekbones were found. And the cameraman William Daniels — over the years he photographed 19 Garbo films — began to caress her face with shadows, frame her in doorways, and discover a new language of expression in her eyes.

The silent Garbo does not act in the conventional sense. She casts lingering gazes, coloured with various emotions, enraptured, yearning or despairing. She drapes herself over her leading men (John Gilbert is the most convincing). She stands, shoulders stooped, casual, enticing, half love-goddess, half marmoset. From these poses, camera-

man, director and editor piece together a "performance".

Though the daily diet of Garbo proved indigestible, we could at least measure one film easily against another. Two directed by Clarence Brown stood out for the fluency of their visual story-telling. Thanks to Kevin Brownlow and David Gill's Live Cinema presentations, *Flesh and the Devil* (1927) is comparatively well-known. *A Woman of Affairs*, from 1929, is also worth a revival; it certainly held the local audience during the open-air screening in the Piazza Maggiore, when Robert Israel led the Arturo Toscanini Orchestra of the Emilia Romagna Region through the original score by William Arst, unheard in almost 70 years.

The film's source is Michael Arlen's novel *The Green Hat*, a scandalous bestseller in its day, though once MGM's doctors got to work the characters' more bothersome afflictions — syphilis, nymphomania — miraculously disappeared. Daniels's camera glides with unusual mobility. Garbo's heroine, alternately reckless and moral, drives round a dream England of Mayfair grandeur and fog so thick that the bonnet carries a huge searchlight. Silent Garbo was never better: silly and wonderful all at once.

Aside from celebrating the Swedish spirit, this year's festival surveyed the work of Russian émigrés who contributed much to European cinema in the 1920s and beyond, particularly in France. Ivan Mosjoukine was the star actor here. His hypnotic presence survived an unwise nose job, performed during a failed assault on Hollywood. But he could not survive the sound era: not because of a language problem (his French is fine in *Sergeant X*), more because of changes in fashion.

Other émigrés fared better, and Bologna offered three extraordinary films from the early 1930s: Victor Trivas's social document *Dans les rues*, Alexander Granowsky's *Das Lied vom Leben*, an agit-prop music video before its time, and Fedor Ozep's atmospheric *Amok*. Watching these wonderful discoveries — will they ever reach London? — Garbo's feet were quite forgotten.

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CHANGING TIMES

GREAT BRITISH HOPES

Rising stars in the arts firmament
SEAMUS MCGARVEY

Age: 29.

Profession: Director of photography with six feature films to his credit.

How did he get started? With a stills camera. "I had my own darkroom at home and I took landscapes. I put on an exhibition called *Armagh in a New Light* which was stills of my town taken under infra-red to dislocate the effect." Then he got into making Super-8 shorts.

How can a teenager afford such a hobby? He covered weddings and sports events for the local paper. "All the money I earned went back into film."

Where did he train? "I got a place at the Polytechnic of Central London to do a three-year course in film and photography. The others got the plum jobs and I was always boom-swinging or assistant editing. It was only when a Polish cameraman, Jacek Petrycki, came as guest tutor that I got to shoot something. He was an incredible influence."

So after that he never looked back? "I was painting and decorating and at one

point I even did a stint at Spud-U-Like in Notting Hill Gate. I was a cinema usher at the ICA but at least I got to see lots of great films that way." He found work as a camera assistant and clapper-loader and then as cinematographer on the kind of BFI and Channel 4 shorts that are the "no-budget and low-budget" staple of learning your trade. "Working in that kind of arena allows you a lot of freedom. Having to improvise is exciting."

He also got to do lots of pop promos: "They give you a lot of creative scope because there's such a range of imagery in that three minutes. You can really push the boat out and experiment."

High spots: He shot Michael Winterbottom's debut, *Butterfly Kiss*, which was recently shown on C4. "It's sacrilegious to say this, but I thought it looked better on telly!" And he shot Les Blair's *Jump The Gun* in South Africa last year. "Les really got into the photography of it, not an area that he's usually fixed on. We're about to shoot



another together in Glasgow where I now live. *Jump the Gun*, which opens nationally on August 22, has its UK premiere at the Edinburgh Film Festival. "I've got four films in the Festival this year so I'm really happy."

Does he want to direct? "Never. I'm into light. A lot of good directors of photography have been lost to directing."

W. STEPHEN GILBERT

The noise! The poseurs!

How can West End first nights be made less appalling?

Banish the preening celebs, Benedict Nightingale says

The American critic George Jean Nathan, defined opening night as "the night before a play is ready to open". But he was writing before preview performances became commonplace. These days it is not lack of preparation — pace *Martin Guerre*, which Cameron Mackintosh courageously took off and revamped — that makes premieres so obnoxious. If I had to offer an updated definition of opening night, it would be "the night audiences ruin shows by showing off".

But isn't this a damaging admission from a critic who regularly attends four first nights a week? Well, I'm not talking about openings on the London fringe or at regional reps. Premieres are also sane, civilised occasions at the Royal Court, the National and, except when guests of the sponsors get noisome, the Royal Shakespeare Company. No, I am talking about those glamorous events everyone envies me for attending: the big first nights in the West End.

Often you can barely get into the foyer because of the crush of gawpers, autograph hounds, paparazzi and bug-eyed amateurs with Polaroids. Once in, you can hardly move because of the seething, insectiferous mob of beautiful people ostentatiously buzzing round each other. Then the curtain fails to rise for 15 or 20 minutes, during which celebrities you have never heard of blithely step across you, smiling as if they have done you a favour by squashing your toes.

When the play belatedly begins, it is likely to be interrupted by strenuous laughter, the sort that proclaims "that person up there is my chum, and though he isn't being funny, I'll help him and draw attention to myself by pretending he is". The interval lasts twice the advertised length, because of the drinks parties breaking out in those teeming ant-hills, the theatre bars. And so to the hypocrites of the final curtain: cheers, bravos and (the latest import from Broadway) the standing ovation.

Let me admit that I have a personal axe to grind. I like shows to start and end on time because I have a review to write and sometimes an 11pm deadline to meet. That is why I behaved badly to a latecomer the other day, answering his loud, distracting whisper of "Are you J?" with a frosty "No, I'm Benedict". But I think there are more principled reasons for wanting to sink my axe into those chic hairdos and swollen heads.

What is the purpose of a first night? It is the moment when weeks, even months of hard work come to a climax, and an audience is asked to witness, absorb and, let's hope, appreciate the creative results. It is about what is occurring on the stage, not in the bars, boxes or fashionably thronged aisles. Actually, I am amazed to be labouring this point, for I had believed that one of the virtues of the Osborne and post-Osborne era was to have made theatre-going more than a dinner-jacketed diversion. But in some ways the situation is worse than in the old, straightforwardly snobbish days.

No longer is there a vociferous gallery, or upper circle, ready to counteract blandness or sycophancy in the stalls. It was they who threw sausages at the critic Shaw, leaving him to point out that he was a vegetarian and would rather be hit by cabbages, and they who answered Dilys Laye, star of a 1957 trippy play called *The Crystal Heart*, when she came to the sort of provocative line that bad shows always throw up: "What a lovely afternoon," she said, and back came a chorus of "but not a



"No longer is there a vociferous gallery ready to counteract sycophancy in the stalls": Spencer Gore's *The Balcony* at the Alhambra (1912)

lovely evening", followed by laughter and boos.

You do not have to go back 100 years for stories of casts being pelted with tomatoes, stink bombs and snuff. The first night of Noël Coward's *Sirocco* in 1927 ended with the author onstage, taking his bow while a badly disoriented leading actress told a jeering, screaming gallery that "this is the happiest moment of my life". He was then spat at as he escaped to his car. As recently as 1959, John Osborne was chased up Charing Cross Road by gallery-goers seemingly intent on murdering him for having perpetrated the fiasco of *The World of Paul Slickey*.

Far be it from me to encourage riotous conduct or the culling of Ayckbourns and Hares. Yet wasn't there something healthy in the first-hand passion the gallery once

brought to first nights? Weren't they demonstrating greater love for the theatre than the celebs whose agents now phone up ceding seats they hope will bring them photos and column inches — and, in some cases, getting them?

Not all West End producers "paper the house", as filling theatres with glossy cliques and glibby cliques is called. Bill Kenwright hates what he calls "rent-a-face" and prefers to invite people who have given help to his organisation, such as provincial theatre managers and agents. The guests at Cameron Mackintosh's first nights are less likely to be film stars than investors, the relatives of leading players, and friends for whose tickets he scrupulously pays himself. Even so, premieres are annoyingly and maybe damagingly different from the nights that follow.

The artificiality of the occasion can mislead critics, and therefore future audiences, into crediting a show with an appeal that it does not have. After all, when everyone is wildly applauding a chorus of purple-clad plumbers dancing round a bubble bath containing Marilyn Monroe — the climax of a musical I once reviewed on Broadway — you feel guilty about dismissing it as preposterous. But more importantly, the tension of a celeb-packed first night can distort performances. It takes real discipline to maintain rigour and precision, subtlety and nuance, when half the population of *Hellot* is grinning up at you. Inauthenticity in the stalls encourages inauthenticity on the stage.

The answer, of course, is first nights more generously peopled by, well, people. But though it celebrated

its centenary last year, the Gallery First Nighters seems to be a far less vibrant outfit than it was a few decades ago. Its surviving members are no longer young and, by all accounts, are not being replaced when they die. If a lynch-mob were to appear on the Charing Cross Road today, it would be on zimmer-frames. Perhaps someone can still resuscitate that organisation. Or perhaps more producers could follow the example of Kenwright, who recently formed his own First Night Club, with members paying an annual £10 for several privileges, including a discount of up to 50 per cent on opening-night tickets. If that means tinkers, tailors, doctors, dentists and ordinary theatre enthusiasts replacing some of the glittering narcissists around me, first nights might become bearable again.

Innocents in a barn dance

Whistle Down the Wind Cheltenham

This is not the Andrew Lloyd Webber version that recently suffered a quick curtailment of its American try-out, but the earlier adaptation by Russell Labey (co-adaptor) and Richard Taylor (composer and lyricist), written for the National Youth Music Theatre in 1993. Its charms beguiled me then, but that was at Christmas time when Nativity plays and the simple faith of children sometimes cast a spell.

Now Sheila Mander has directed the English professional premiere at the Everyman and, while the simple faith factor did eventually operate, a number of counter-acting factors predominate.

Mary Hayley Bell's original story is familiar from the ever-popular film. In a Lancashire village in the 1950s young Cathy and her even younger brother and sister surprise an injured man sheltering in their father's barn. "Jesus Christ!" he mutters when he sees them, not realising that they have just asked who he is. The children fervently believe him to be the Saviour returned, though he is more likely to be the escaped murderer hunted by the grown-ups.

The village children come to share this belief, and the community divides along the line separating innocence and wonder from experience and bad tempers. "Why are they always so angry?" the children ask in one of Taylor's spiky songs, and the difference between the parents and their offspring is wittily expressed in the Nativity scene where

sour-faced parents vent their impatience while the children sing their kinder thoughts.

Taylor's hard-to-follow melodies present some of the younger singers with problems. However, one appealing ten-year-old, whose blond head barely comes up to the waist of Jeremy Sharples's gruff convict, brings a clear sweetness to the "angels" scene in the barn.

The children, from five Gloucestershire schools, respond well to Mander's direction, strikingly so inside the barn when a dozen of them find places on the bales in the most natural manner, and are suddenly seen to have formed a picturesque tableau.

Rebecca Rainsford (Cathy), is a professional, and her CV suggests she must be several years older than she looks. Able to portray sincere belief even when she lifts her eyes up to heaven, she is required to declare her passionate love for the convict/Jesus; with any actress taller than a ten-year-old this shifts the situation into adolescent erotics which the story is not concerned to examine. This is one of the reasons a staged musical version will always be unsatisfactory. Simple faith looks dubious without sexual psychology.

JEREMY KINGSTON

Sound barrier

Just Brecht King's Head, N1

Eva Meier enjoys performing in strange places. She has just finished at the New End, which was once a morgue, and is now installed at the King's Head, which was once a boozing ring. What she's not really enjoying is her sparse and slightly bemused audience.

Meier is obviously an authority on the songs of Brecht/Weill and Brecht/Eisler, but her formal style of cabaret, while bowing and scraping to theatre, would clearly benefit from the drunk, smoky irreverence of a *biere*. Dressed in black slacks, black silk shirt and a flick of fair hair over one eye, Meier certainly looks and sounds the part of a cabaret Grande Dame. Declaiming the songs in her native German, rather than singing them, she comes across as the harsh chronicler of even harsher times in the self-explanatory *Ballad of Sexual Slavery*. And yet the flinty defiance gives way just as surely to vulnerability in *Song of a German Mother*, a bitter Larkin-like ode sung by a mother about her son going to a doomed war.

In all 17 songs the insecurities of Germany in the Thirties and early Forties are sardonically chronicled by Brecht, including a handful of numbers from *The Threepenny Opera*, the *Happy End* and *Berliner Requiem*. In keeping with the no-frills approach, Conor Linehan beautifully accompanies on a pub upright piano.

What kills the momentum, however, is Meier's decision to have a translation of every song read before she sings it. Mary Keegan, sitting stage right, similarly attired in black with a book of translations open on her knee, tries to animate these by adopting Irish or Scots accents. But somehow this gesture to embrace English inadvertently conspires to give the stage the atmosphere of a chapel. Everyone sits around patiently with due reverence waiting for their moment. What should be scathing snapshots of decadence, depression and despair about the most insecure period of German history start to sound distant, dry and monotonous. Meier's manly voice and handsome presence provide some small compensation. But really she should chance her arm in the nearest crowded pub — which happens to be next door.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

Bardic fruitcake

Titles as fruity as this — in full, *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)* — are usually found on Mel Brooks films or awful fringe plays. James Christopher writes. We are blessed with neither here. Instead Canadian playwright Ann-Marie MacDonald presents one of the cleverest bits of Shakespearean carpet-pulling this side of the Reduced Shakespeare Company's *Hamlet*.

Connie, a blue-stocking lecturer in Renaissance drama, becomes embroiled in a controversial thesis when a dastardly professor she is in love with absconds with one of her students. Her theory that the heroes of *Othello* and *Romeo and Juliet* have abundant opportunities to save themselves, yet don't because they have somehow misplaced their Fools, flings Connie blinking into the twilight zone of the plays themselves.

Stumbling around like Mr Magoo, Helen Fittock's wonderfully tweezy Connie spoils Iago's trick with the famous spotted handkerchief only to discover that Desdemona is as savage and boring as Othello himself. Having saved them from Iago, Connie suddenly finds herself on the end of another plot string.

Whisked to Verona by her magic manuscript she stops the tragedy of *Romeo and Juliet* dead in its tracks by declaring that R&J have been secretly married. What follows is a lot of crossed wires. While Iago, now put on permanent toilet duty by Othello, tries to murder Connie, both *Romeo and Juliet* contrive to fall in love with her. Clever doubling-up among the cast of five



Helen Fittock as Connie

makes this an ingenious bit of stitching. Nic Guntton's oily Iago returns as a camp Romeo: Toby Gaffney's pompous Othello is an equally pompous Tybalt; and the very beautiful Alisa Modet and Arabella Butler juggle Desdemona and Juliet with soldiers, ghosts, servants and students.

The farce unfolds with actors scrambling madly to keep faith with their characters. The minimalist set and dodgy props seem entirely in keeping with *The Totally Portable Theatre Company*. The only serious drag is the endless fiddly scene changes that take some of the steam out of Michael Cowie's otherwise laudable and enjoyable production. Every earnest Renaissance student should be press-ganged into envious

POP: Canadian sisters welcome us into their front room; a Cork trio gratefully celebrate their latest album

Family business

IN HER short story, *Heart Songs*, the novelist E. Annie Proulx describes an antique family in a remote bucolic backwater of America who make the most wonderfully timeless rural music. They are God-fearing folk, who keep their "joyful noise" to themselves and their maker. "We don't play out," Proulx's ancient fiddler says curtly, when asked where they can be heard away from the homestead.

Kate and Anna McGarrigle do play out but they take their front parlour with them. The Canadian sisters, now in their fifties, come on like a pair of off-duty schoolteachers, sitting and playing old accordions and banjos around the piano, singing homespun harmonies in both French and English and chattering among themselves.

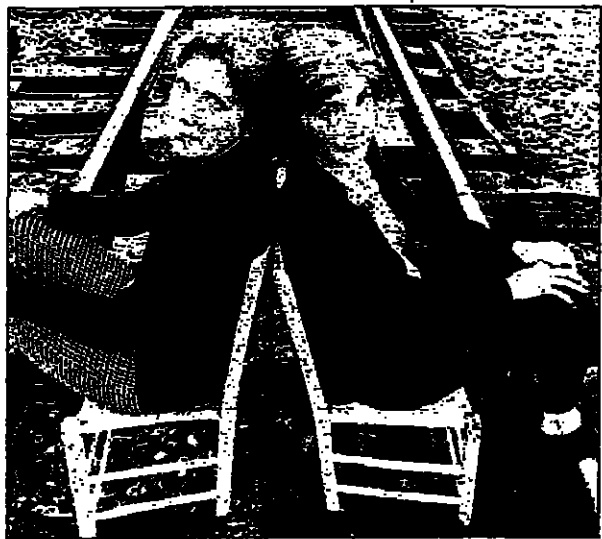
They were joined here by their two talented daughters, making their London debut, and the feeling that they had all walked out of the French-Canadian backwoods and stumbled inconspicuously on to a stage was greater than ever.



The songs are finely crafted but the presentation is disorganised. Yet, instead of being irritating, the lengthy tuning up and delays as family members wander on and off stage added to the down-home charm.

On their own, both Anna and Kate have attractive but ordinary voices. Together, the purity and poignancy of their harmonies are extraordinary, as they showed on such favourites as *Heart Like A Wheel* and *Complaine Pour Saint Catherine*, as well as more recent material from last year's understated masterpiece *Matapedia*. There is no drummer, only family friends Michel Pepin on bass and Joel Zilklin on fiddle, who plays with the same mournful longing that fellow Canadian Rick Danko used to evoke with *The Band*.

In the end, the show was



Kate and Anna: extraordinary purity in their harmonies

almost stolen by Kate's daughter, Martha Wainwright. With Anna's daughter, Lily, she shares the family facility for harmony, but on songs such as *In My Car* she suggested a stronger solo voice than either her mother or aunt.

Together the four women reached something approaching perfect harmony, musically and emotionally, when they sang the title track from

Matapedia about an old lover of Kate's paying a visit after many years and thinking he has seen her ghost when he encounters the teenage Martha.

The McGarrigles are an absorbing, warm and generous family. How they fitted us all into their front room remains a miracle.

NIGEL WILLIAMSON

Frankly, a bit flat

HAILED as the flavour of the month when they initially burst on to the scene in bright orange trousers and silly haircuts in the early 1990s, The Frank and Walters were left with a sour taste in their mouth when they reappeared last September and found that the pop world had turned the calendar page on their quirky brand of wide-eyed guitar pop.

Their second album, *Grand Parade*, was never released: their record company, Go! Discs, had been subsumed by the Polygram corporation, which pulled the plug shortly before the album was due to hit the shops.

The Cork trio found solace in the guise of the London-Irish label, Setanta, which eventually released *Grand Parade* last month. This late-night gig, therefore, was not so much a promotional exercise as a sigh of relief that they had a record to promote.

With the removal of the plush red seats for the night, the area in front of the stage was transformed into a moatpit for their more excit-

The Frank and Walters Olympia, Dublin

able fans, who jumped for joy during the bittersweet jangle of *Colours*, *After All* — their biggest hit — and *Michael*.

But if there was a certain dynamic edge missing from the performance, it was mainly down to a muddy sound mix — an affliction rarely suffered by this venue.

This meant that songs that sparkle with an uninhibited energy and iridescent charm on record sounded flat. The occasional use of a keyboard player, though, helped matters somewhat, especially on *Little Dolls*, a heart-rending tale of disillusionment and innocence lost.

The Frank and Walters plan to set up shop in New York soon, where they hope to find a city less in thrall to the twin towers of Britpop and techno than London.

NICK KELLY

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Landmark LONDON

Personal Assistant to Chairman and Group Directors.

High calibre, flexible experienced PA required with good shorthand and W4W for West End multi-faceted group involved in property, construction, aggregates, leasing and advertising. Interesting and varied work. A demanding role. Experience legal/financial company an asset but not essential.

Please apply with CV to JMF Vickers DPM Group Ltd 52 Broadwick Street London W1V 1PG.

PROPERTY RECRUITMENT SECRETARY/ADMINISTRATOR

Required to join our busy London office, based in W8. Must be computer literate, experienced and have the ability to work on your own initiative in a small office environment.

Good telephone manner and excellent written skills essential. Full or part time applications. Salary £14K (according to experience).

For further details apply to: Property Recruitment Services, 49/50 Kensington High Street, London W8 5ED. Tel: 0171 938 3835 Fax: 0171 938 3596.

PROPERTY INVESTMENT CO. SENIOR SECRETARY

High calibre, experienced and motivated Secretary to a senior member of the company. Salary to £15,000 p.a. with a good understanding of MS Word.

SECRETARY/RECEPTIONIST

Receptionist/secretary, office management, customer with typing and shorthand skills. Salary £10,000 p.a. with experience. Please apply in writing with CV to: Commercial House, The Chiswick, 5 St. Catherine's Avenue, London W9 3PS. Tel: 0171 938 0122.

ADVERTISING ASSISTANT/SECRETARY

For small office of national charters surveys. Must have experience in MS Office '97. Would suit a 'returner'. Please send covering letter and CV to:

Carter Jones 12a George Street, Beaver Square LONDON W1R 9DE

PA/SECRETARY

High Calibre secretary, urgently req for proprietor of Large private company. This is a busy, varied role and you will need to be smart, well spoken a good communicator, have excellent secretarial skills, a minimum of 60 wpm W4W and excel experience. Shorthand is an advantage. Age 25+ salary £15,000 p.a. please send your CV and covering letter to Kelly Wink, 128 Finchley Road, London NW3 5HT or fax 0171 431 5623.

NUMERATE, QUICK THINKING & INTELLIGENT?

We are looking for someone who has excellent administrative skills, an organised approach to presentation & figure work & the flexible attitude to work within a small office environment for an increasing international business based in EC1.

If you have a successful background including good shorthand skills, with a broad knowledge of Microsoft Word & Wordperfect 5.2 for Windows, we would like to hear from you.

Salary A&E. Please send with a full CV & covering letter and current salary history expectations to Mrs No 6407 (no agency)

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CO-ORDINATOR

Experienced all-round team player with a 'can do' attitude wanted for a thriving media training company in Victoria.

Managing the day to day administration and dealing with current and prospective clients. You must be outgoing, enthusiastic, flexible and able to work under pressure. Good organisational and up-to-date skills essential. £16K-£18K and.

Contact Nicola Moss, INTERMEDIA TRAINING Tel: 0171 335 0030 Fax: 0171 879 8801

S.O.S.I. Executive Secretary

This prestigious company needs YOU. If you have 60wpm, MS W4W, strong interpersonal skills and enjoy liaising with clients on all levels. Based in elegant Knightsbridge

Telephone:
0171 680 6806

Crème de la Crème

Fax:
0171 782 7586

HOBSTONES

TOP PA to £25,000

Team spirit and top level PA required to work for a Managing Partner in leading firm of Chartered Accountants. This demanding role will provide the opportunity to utilise your exceptional organisational skills and ability to prioritise. You will also be required to use your initiative and work autonomously undertaking projects and juggling numerous tasks. Liaising at senior level will require outstanding communication skills, discretion and diplomacy. Minimum of three years experience at senior level coupled with good word for windows skills and 60wpm typing are essential. Excellent benefits.

For immediate interview call
MILLIE PIERRE-LOUIS
ON
0171 437 6032

MAINE-TUCKER
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

CHARITIES, ARTS, POLITICS...

£22,000 + 9.50 am start

There are many ways to make a difference in the world. You can be a part of a team that is making a difference in the lives of others. We are looking for a person who is passionate about their work and who is willing to go the extra mile. We offer a competitive salary and excellent benefits. If you are interested, please contact us.

15-21 Jermyn Street, St James's, London SW1Y 6HP
Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Fax: 0171 734 7346

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RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Calling all College Leavers!

FIRST JOB - GREAT START

£14,000 + good bens + car parking

Two main companies with first office and second office in the City. Both companies are looking for a person who is motivated and who is willing to go the extra mile. We offer a competitive salary and excellent benefits. If you are interested, please contact us.

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Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Fax: 0171 734 7346

MAINE-TUCKER
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Social Secretary goes to town!

£18,000 + good package

Exciting and challenging role for a person who is motivated and who is willing to go the extra mile. We offer a competitive salary and excellent benefits. If you are interested, please contact us.

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THE TOOTH FAIRY OF HARLEY ST

£18,000 + O/T, free lunch + nice hours!

Exciting and challenging role for a person who is motivated and who is willing to go the extra mile. We offer a competitive salary and excellent benefits. If you are interested, please contact us.

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Telephone: 0171 734 7341 Fax: 0171 734 7346

NEWLY CREATED PA ROLE!

£25,000 + MS + Bens

This expanding division of a leading Investment Bank is urgently seeking an efficient, organised PA to work for two Senior Directors. This is a new role, so it will incorporate setting up systems, extensive client contact and supervising a team of secretaries. The ideal candidate will have a confident, strong personality.

Please contact Melinda Marks.

Jonathan Wren & Co Ltd
FINANCIAL RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS
No. 1 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 623 5259

SECRETARY/DESK ASSISTANT

£22,000 + Benefits

An excellent opportunity to support a lively team of Fund Managers. Duties are extremely varied and include organising travel, diaries, preparing reports as well as a high level of client liaison. This position would suit someone looking for involvement beyond a purely secretarial role.

Please contact Margaret Sorohan.

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No. 1 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 623 5259

TEMPORARY SECRETARIES IN BANKING

Jonathan Wren is the recommended supplier to the City Personnel Group which has a membership of over 300 Banks in London.

We constantly need experienced Secretaries & DTP Operators aged 20-35 years with a financial background or recent Graduate for a variety of assignments in the City, West End and Docklands. Temping as a Secretary or DTP Operator in Banking offers excellent rates up to £12.50 per hour + overtime.

MS Office (Word, Excel & PowerPoint) essential!

Please contact Debra Berry.

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ADMINISTRATOR/SECRETARY TOP FASHION HOUSE

£20,000 p.a. + EX PERKS!

Increased in fashion or had experience in retail? Support opportunity exists for a well educated, intelligent and organised Secretary 25+ with strong admin skills to assist Senior Director working on a new systems project. A fixed term assignment of 12-18 months commencing in September. You will be responsible for a variety of administrative tasks, including organising travel, diaries, preparing reports as well as a high level of client liaison. This position would suit someone looking for involvement beyond a purely secretarial role.

Please contact Margaret Sorohan.

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No. 1 New Street, London EC2M 4TP
Tel: 0171 623 1266 Fax: 0171 623 5259

EVENTS MARKETING

£20,000 plus benefits

This international organisation needs a graduate calibre secretary for their specialist marketing team. The job requires a proactive, confident person to work alongside the Events Manager and two Marketing Specialists. You will be responsible for assisting in organising events and conferences, producing creative presentation work and managing a database. You will need good knowledge of Windows including graphics plus a dedicated and motivated attitude allowing you to maximise the career opportunities the position offers. Please call us now.

Committed to equal opportunities

0171 287 7788

Angela Mortimer

Aldrich & Company

EVENTS / MARKETING

£18,000

Young, energetic, highly sociable secretary required to support the marketing director. Attend events, look after the clients - very much a right-hand role with loads of involvement and potential. You must be extremely well presented, have 50wpm typing & good IT skills. Call Emily Aldrich.

CITY RECRUITMENT
Tel: 0171 588 8999 Fax: 0171 588 8998

Aldrich & Company

NUMERATE ADMINISTRATOR

£24 - 30,000 AAE

Top investment bank requires a very numerate administrator to deal with budgets, strategy, recruitment, etc. supporting the Head of Investment Banking's Office and right-hand man. Must be PC literate (age 20's/30's). Call Sarah Turnbull.

CITY RECRUITMENT
Tel: 0171 588 8999 Fax: 0171 588 8998

Aldrich & Company

INVESTMENT BANKING PA

£22,000 + BANK BENS

Are you a highly organised and polished PA used to working at senior level? This senior Board Director will let you take the initiative to run the department. A superb opportunity - masses of co-ordinating and scope to develop the role. Call Alex Gaze.

CITY RECRUITMENT
Tel: 0171 588 8999 Fax: 0171 588 8998

Personnel Secretary

£20,000

High profile holdings company requires a well organised secretary to work within their personnel department. This is a great opportunity to gain experience within personnel and will require W4W, Excel, PowerPoint and 50wpm. The ability to speak French would be a definite advantage to secure this prestigious position with excellent benefits.

REED For Executive Secretarial positions in the City. Tel: 0171 224 2820

Sec/Asst To Director

£20,000

To provide full secretarial support to the Executive Director of this fund management company. Duties to include the handling of correspondence, reports and prioritising the Director's workload. The successful candidate will have stockbroking/fund management experience along with shorthand, W4W, Excel, PowerPoint and 50wpm.

REED For Executive Secretarial positions in the City. Tel: 0171 224 2820

Career moves

NEWS PA to £17,000

An exciting and interesting role for a well skilled PA/Secretary with shorthand who has a passion for news and current affairs. This position is to support the Head of News and the News Editor and their team in decision-making for news stories and to ensure that the news is presented in a clear and concise manner. You will need to be able to work under pressure and to be able to handle a high volume of work.

SHORTHAND PA to £20,000

Supporting the dynamic executive producer of a well established video company specialising in training videos, as well as helping out the Head of Production and the Managing Director. You will need to be flexible and highly organised, as well as possessing good shorthand skills and a basic understanding of the film and video industry.

MARKETING PA to £20,000

Working within the marketing and business development division of a successful TV group, this role is to support the two Heads of Department with the handling of new channels and research of new business opportunities. This PA needs to be very good at filing and organising, as well as being able to handle a high volume of work.

CAREER MOVES (Rec Cons)

Tel: 0171 284 0297
Fax: 0171 434 0297

McKINLAY PARTNERSHIP
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

TRAINING LEGAL SECRETARIES

£20,000 - £22,000

Two to three experienced secretaries to support a busy legal firm. The successful candidate will have a minimum of 2 years experience in a legal secretarial role and will be able to handle a high volume of work. We offer a competitive salary and excellent benefits. If you are interested, please contact us.

0171 930 6060

Create Your Own Role Package £23k

Amazing opportunity to develop this secretarial position within a high profile department of this US Investment Bank. This role offers great potential for a dynamic person who can gain the trust of this young friendly team. You will need typing of 50wpm and experience in Word for Windows, Excel and PowerPoint, your role will be varied and involved.

Solid experience required. Please call Sam Garner on 0171 390 7000 or fax your CV on 0171 390 2997.

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

PA'S, SECRETARIES, ADMINISTRATORS & OFFICE MANAGERS

Salaries £20 - £30,000

Adecco Elite specialises in recruiting Senior PA's, Secretaries, Administrators and Office Managers on behalf of large blue chip organisations. We have a variety of vacancies in the City and West End that require Ad. PowerPoint, Applenmac with graphics, Word 4 Windows, fast copy and audio speeds of min 65wpm and shorthand, Banking or Legal experience.

If you have any of the above skills and would be interested in discussing our current vacancies with an experienced consultant then please call...

Terri Bonard on 0171 499 5881 at Adecco Elite (Rec Cons)

Adecco Elite

JOIN OUR TEAM!

Why sit at home waiting for your agency to call when you could be working for one of our prestigious City or West End clients and earn SERIOUS MONEY? Here is just a taster of current assignments we are looking to fill.

IMMEDIATE SHORTHAND ASSIGNMENTS (min 90 wpm)

- Director's Secretary - Insurance - 2 months
- Manager's Secretary - P/T Shipping - 6 months
- Team Secretary - Marketing - 3 weeks

IMMEDIATE AUDIO ASSIGNMENTS

- Director's Secretary - Personnel - Temp to perm
- Director's Secretary - Venture Capital - 2 months
- Manager's Secretary - Entertainment - Indefinitely

If you have excellent secretarial skills, a good working knowledge of Windows packages and are aged 18-40, call our Temporary Division NOW!

MORE P/T TEMP AND PERM POSITIONS AVAILABLE!

TEL: 0171 734 8484
FAX: 0171 734 8501

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BILINGUAL FINANCIAL SECRETARIES

£20,000 - £22,000

Working for a leading financial services company, we are looking for a person who is motivated and who is willing to go the extra mile. We offer a competitive salary and excellent benefits. If you are interested, please contact us.

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career moves

ADVERTISING, PUBLISHING, TELEVISION, DESIGN, MUSIC, PUBLIC RELATIONS, ART, BROADCASTING, ENTERTAINMENT.

WELL SKILLED SECRETARIES FOR MEDIA.

Required urgently for fantastic opportunities.

LEGAL PA/SECRETARIES. £16-20,000

Several of our top television companies are seeking skilled legal and business affairs secretaries who understand legal language and are familiar with drawing up and proof reading contracts and documents. Shorthand would be an advantage in some instances, but a good eye for detail and accurate fast typing skills are essential.

CREATIVE PA/SECRETARIES £18-£25,000

Career moves work with several of the most successful top 20 advertising agencies and PR consultancies, and we are seeking to fill several positions at senior level in Accounts, handling, Account and Media Planning, Marketing and Creative Services.

Experience in a creative department or company and excellent secretarial skills are essential, preferably with shorthand, and you must possess a good working knowledge of PowerPoint.

CAREER MOVES (Rec Cons)

Tel: 0171 284 0297
Fax: 0171 434 0297

HR for Europe

£21,000 + O/T + Bens West End

Prestigious US finance house requires a high calibre addition to their already successful team. The ability to work with constantly changing priorities and pressure is essential. You'll be constantly challenged, use your brain and make the most of your excellent secretarial skills, which must include 80 wpm S/H, 60 wpm typing and good WP systems. Your hard work will be well rewarded! Call Andrea Murrell or Sam Arnold on 0171 434 4512.

Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants

BUSY AND BUZZY ADMIN SECRETARY £17K

Based in the trendy King's Road, this prestigious property company requires an experienced secretary to work for a young, vibrant team. Lots of client liaison and a very varied role. Skills needed are 50wpm typing, audio and Word for Windows. Interested? Call Anna NOW!

HORSES FOR COURSES SHORTHAND PA £19K + EXC BENS

Love horses, want regular hours and a super boss? If you have usable shorthand and the ability to support a busy, dynamic Director, who understands how to use a PA, call Corina for an immediate interview.

GOING FOR BROKE - £17K + BENS

Small City based Brokers require a pro-active, experienced Secretary to support team of 2. If you have Word, Excel and enjoy 60% audio typing, then the MD could interview you tomorrow! Call Deborah NOW!

PAN EUROPEAN RECRUITMENT

TEL: 0171 734 8484
FAX: 0171 734 8501

MONUMENT

GRADUATE SEC/ASSTANTS to £20,000 + Bens

High profile City based Managers and a Client base

MARKETING

Supporting Client Services and Marketing Director - Marketing & Business Development. Supporting & marketing sales - presentation, lead liaison, reports, portfolio analysis, performance queries, technical advice.

EXEC OFFICE & HR

A split role as well as supporting the MD in the co-ordinating generalist duties for the HR Manager. Individuals should have 30 wpm typing, good presentation skills, an interest in HR Management and ability to work as part of busy teams.

FORUM HOUSE 15-18 LIME STREET
LONDON EC2M 4AP
TEL: 0171 929 1281 FAX: 0171 621 0985

PA

£30,000 + Banking Benefits

Only a PA of the highest calibre will be suitable for this prestigious position within one of the world's leading Investment Banks. Working for a Senior Partner in the Bank, you will have a background in Finance and an informed interest in the markets. You must be mature, confident and highly polished. Microsoft Office competency and Shorthand are required.

For this and other similar opportunities call Debbie Smith.

Portman Recruitment,
29 Thompson Street,
London EC2M 4AT
Tel: 0171 428 5876
Fax: 0171 428 5876
Visit our web site on www.portman-recruitment.co.uk
portman@portman-recruitment.co.uk

PORTMAN
banking 0171 374 4298

PA TO MD £20,000

MD of a high profile financial company requires a PA. Must have 3 years' + secretarial/PA experience, have an excellent knowledge of W4W, Excel and PowerPoint. An European language an advantage. City

"THE ARTS" £16,000

A well known arts organisation is looking for a secretary/PA to work in their friendly and busy fundraising department. Reporting to the Director of Corporate Fundraising, you must be articulate, a good communicator and have lots of initiative to provide secretarial/PA support. Must have good secretarial skills and an excellent knowledge of W4W.

PR, ADMIN ASSISTANT £14,500

A large international PR agency requires an administrative assistant to help 2 account teams. Would suit a secretary with 6 months' + secretarial/PA experience. Must have 50wpm typing and an excellent knowledge of W4W and PowerPoint.

Please send CVs to: 0171 434 4512

47 New Bond St, London W1Y 9HA
Tel: 0171 493 8824 Fax: 0171 493 7161
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

Express Yourself

Prestigious International Company, WC2

Placing People First

Due to expansion and reorganisation excellent opportunities exist for:-

- PA to Managing Partner £22,000+
- Administrative Services Analyst £19,000-£21,000
- Building Secretary £19,000-£21,000
- Secretary to Associate Partner £18,000-£20,000
- Director's Secretary £16,000-£18,000
- Managers Secretary £16,000-£18,000

The company offers an outstanding benefits package, including PRP, BUPA, Pension Scheme, Subsidised Restaurant and Gym together with a full induction and ongoing career development.

A minimum of 5 GCSE's including English and Maths and a RSA qualification are required.

Please call Helena Vian for an immediate interview.

0171 828 2727

Talissman Secretarial Ltd, Remo House, 310-312 Regent Street, London W1R 5AB. Tel: 0171 828 2727 Fax: 0171 630 6318
E-mail: talissman-rec@talissman.com

The Top Temporary Opportunities!

with TALISSMAN SECRETARIAL LTD

Due to the busy summer months we urgently require new temporarys. In return for enthusiasm and commitment we offer competitive rates of pay, variety of assignments, temp to perm opportunities, computerised accounts, prompt payment direct into your bank account.

If you have a minimum of 55 wpm, good knowledge of Windows, Excel and PowerPoint and are interested in finding out about the above positions and more!

Please contact Julie Green on 0171 828 2727.

Talissman Secretarial Ltd, Remo House, 310-312 Regent Street, London W1R 5AB. Tel: 0171 828 2727 Fax: 0171 630 6318
E-mail: talissman-rec@talissman.com

PA

Required for busy executive - Corporate & HR. Good communication skills essential.

Salary £20K+

Send CV to: 0171 265 1701

CHANCERY LANE

Secretary for Partner & Solicitor. Fast accurate typing & good communication skills. A good working knowledge of Word & PowerPoint.

Salary JAAE

Please send CV to: 0171 6452

FINANCE TEAM SEC

£18,000 incl PRP

Min 2 years team sec exp for the major Blue Chip Co. Total requirement, excellent package, 50+ wpm + good GCSE's.

Tel: Gillian Thompson
0171 621 1304
Perkins Emp Agt

PA TO MD £20,000

MD of a high profile financial company requires a PA. Must have 3 years' + secretarial/PA experience, have an excellent knowledge of W4W, Excel and PowerPoint. An European language an advantage. City

"THE ARTS" £16,000

A well known arts organisation is looking for a secretary/PA to work in their friendly and busy fundraising department. Reporting to the Director of Corporate Fundraising, you must be articulate, a good communicator and have lots of initiative to provide secretarial/PA support. Must have good secretarial skills and an excellent knowledge of W4W.

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Please send CVs to: 0171 434 4512

47 New Bond St, London W1Y 9HA
Tel: 0171 493 8824 Fax: 0171 493 7161
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

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Placing People First

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- PA to Managing Partner £22,000+
- Administrative Services Analyst £19,000-£21,000
- Building Secretary £19,000-£21,000
- Secretary to Associate Partner £18,000-£20,000
- Director's Secretary £16,000-£18,000
- Managers Secretary £16,000-£18,000

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E-mail: talissman-rec@talissman.com

Telephone:
0171 680 6806

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Fax:
0171 782 7586

ROOM AT THE TOP

Fund Management

£30,000 Package

Two senior Partners of this prestigious Fund Management Company are looking for a proactive PA to work closely alongside them. You will be responsible for managing their hectic work schedules organising meetings, travel and corporate hospitality as well as some personal work. Excellent attention to detail is required for this position together with a high level of numeracy, discretion and confidentiality. Financial experience is essential and you will possess a good educational background with proven ability to work in a pressurised, team driven environment. Shorthand and 60wpm typing.

Committed to equal opportunities.

0171 814 0800



Angela Mortimer

PA/SECRETARY £22,000

A varied position within this high profile international consultancy where you will support a management team of four. Involvement with projects, conference organising and daily office management. Superb offices and a fast moving environment. Word for Windows, Powerpoint, Excel.

Please telephone 0171 628 9529
Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

CORPORATE LAW £26,000

This American law firm requires an organised PA to support the managing partner. This varied role includes assisting with office management. Previous legal experience and 55wpm typing required.

Please telephone 0171 628 9529
Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

TOP CALIBRE £25,000

Exciting opportunity to join this growing international company supporting the senior trader. You will be encouraged to use your initiative and take on new responsibilities in this ever expanding role. 50wpm.

Please telephone 0171 495 2321
Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

ENTREPRENEURIAL PA to £24,000

+ PRP sports club. Elite fast moving team running 40 companies need organised self starter to assist Group Finance Director and also help out with marketing functions, investor relations and company secretarial. MS Office and internet.

Please telephone 0171 495 2321
Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

SEARCH & SELECTION £20,000

+ bonus, pension, bupa, gym. Very much an assistant role this partner and senior consultant would like to involve their PA to the full. Attend briefings, handle client / candidate liaison, research and marketing. 55wpm.

Please telephone 0171 495 2321
Elizabeth Hunt
RECRUITMENT CONSULTANTS

HOBSTONES

EXC. OPPORTUNITY to £19,000 + Bens

Based in the Docklands, 14 mins from Bank tube, this prestigious and highly successful US Bank has an exciting opportunity within their Legal and Compliance Division. Co-ordination of travel arrangements and expenses, telephone liaison and diary management are just some of the duties this senior role involves. Supporting the Vice President, you will also be required to assist 2 Compliance Associates and 1 Compliance Analyst. In addition to the genuine commitment and enthusiasm the successful candidate will bring to the role, 4 - 5 years solid secretarial experience, RSA I & II and a formal secretarial course are all essential. The combination of friendly support from a secretarial team plus fantastic benefits make this an exceptional opportunity.

For more information please call **HELENA IZATT** on **0171 550 7000**

RECRUITMENT

2ND JOBBER BEAUTIFUL OFFICES £15,000

Plenty, City with excellent views, modern computer system, excellent 2nd jobber with excellent typing skills, excellent 2nd jobber with excellent typing skills, excellent 2nd jobber with excellent typing skills.

Call Kate, Tel: 0171 495 2321

P.A. to MD

Assist this extremely busy MD in organising his hectic schedule. Fast paced West End company. This is a true 1st job position £22,000.

Window Consultancy Services, Aldford House, 15 Wilson Road, London, SW1V 1LT. Tel: 0171 828 8345. Fax: 0171 976 5332.

SENIOR PA, SW6 £20-23,000 AAE

Well known, upmarket retail success story offers varied role for senior PA in their IT dept. Must have 50wpm and W4W. IT exp advantageous. Call Karin on 0171 636 1493.

BEAVERS
Personal Recruitment Consultants

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY £22K + EXCELLENT BENEFITS

First Publishing Co seeks first class PA to support a Vice President and Director. Previous experience with a blue chip org is essential. Good salary and benefits. Good working conditions. Good working conditions. Good working conditions.

Harriet Gabb
Tel: 0171 828 3838
Fax: 0171 828 3888

attend a

Do you know the difference between self-esteem and confidence?

Why is it that you do fabulously well when you are feeling good about yourself?

Are you fulfilling your Potential? If not, what steps are you taking?

Sophie Turner, renowned development speaker will unlock all the answers at Tate Appointments Personal Development Evening for Temps on 6th August 1997.

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E-mail: info@tate.co.uk
Web: http://www.tate.co.uk

HODGE

PA to Finance Director City c. £23,000

This well known Members Agent based in the heart of the City has a position supporting the Finance Director. Key duties must include good shorthand, accurate typing, tact and discretion. Responsibilities will include drafting own correspondence, preparation of board reports, management of ad-hoc projects, and collating figures. The ideal secretary will have a proven track record at senior level, thrive when busy and have a flair for organisation. The ability to use your initiative is essential, see open.

TEL: 0171 332 0995 ♦ FAX: 0171 332 0996

LEADING CITY FINANCIAL PR CONSULTANCY

Are seeking well presented secretaries with good organisational and communication skills proficiency in organising travel, events and presentations, a good sense of humour, the ability to work under pressure. Good working knowledge of W4W 6, typing speeds 50wpm. Previous experience in the City would be an advantage. Salary £16,000-£17,500 depending on age and experience. Applications in writing to Christine Brown, Personnel Manager, Lodge Communications Limited, 111 Chancery Street, London EC2M 6AA. Previous applicants need not apply. No agencies.

B.J. CRAWFORD'S

SECRETARIES HOLD THOSE HOLIDAYS

We have the following PA/Sec positions for immediate interview.

1. Pa in Financial PR dept client - City based £20,000 + perks
2. Asst to Chairman PA - Top Ad Agency - Kensington £20,000 + perks
3. Sec/Administrator - Finance Dept of small team in Pimlico £16,000
4. Sec to Director in West End Property Company £20,000
5. Sec in small and prestigious investment company - City based £17,000 + perks
6. Partners PA International Law firm in Fleet Street £18,000

Please call Eleanor or Vicki on 0171 935 9492 (Rac Cons)

PA to CHIEF EXECUTIVE HOUNSLOW £22,000 + Benefits

Our client the Chief Executive of an innovative organisation which is a forerunner in business development, is seeking a polished, proactive, flexible secretary. You will manage his diverse diary, draft correspondence, and liaise extensively with clients and partners. Strong communications skills, plus W4W, 80 shorthand essential. Superb modern offices.

Tel: 0171 588 3055 Fax: 0171 588 3066
MITCHELL YOUNG ASSOCIATES
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10

RUGBY LEAGUE

Overnight success after 17 years

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

OUT in southwest London, rugby league is slowly but perceptively leaving its imprint. Corporate gladhanding was in full flow on Monday night and the Stoop Memorial Ground was filled by a fresh and vibrant audience.

Nothing sells like success and London Broncos' 38-18 defeat of Canberra Raiders in the world club championship on a balmy evening was a piece of self-promotion beyond any reasonable expectation.

The Broncos have always talked a good game: here, they were playing it in embarrassing the pre-tournament favourites. Stalwarts of London's cause harked back to a low point, three years ago, when Scott Roskell was among those jeered off after a 13-10 defeat by York. There were 687 people at Barnet Copthall Stadium that day: Roskell's final try on Monday whipped a crowd of nearly 8,000 into a state of delirium.

It was a victory of unparalleled importance, not only for the credibility of the British game, but also for the legitimacy of the Broncos and the sport in London. Quite simply, there has been no more significant occasion in the 17 chequered years that rugby league has been trying to root itself in the capital.

For the first time that Barry Maranta, the London Broncos' visionary Australian chairman, could recall, people afterwards were eagerly looking forward to the next game, on Sunday, against the original Broncos, from Brisbane.

"You've got to be Nostradamus at times to know there's a match on, such is the lack of media attention on league in the South," he said. "Suddenly, we have fax messages piled high with congratulations and ticket requests. The whole thing is taking off."

Maranta has a habit of shooting from the hip. When Richard Branson took a 15 per cent stake in the club earlier this year, Maranta predicted that, in three or four years, London would be "the major force in world rugby league".

Many chorled, but, after one of Australia's best sides had been carved apart, Maranta looked less of a hopeless optimist.

In the three years since he sold his stake in Brisbane Broncos and bought a majority share of the London operation, Maranta has found it far tougher than he imagined. The victory on Monday provided him with his most satisfactory moment since he arrived at Barnet Copthall.

"There have been a lot of

lows," Maranta said. "Going to Wigan a couple of years ago, for instance, and getting smashed. Then, two weeks ago, we beat Wigan down here and now a so-called bunch of oldies go and beat Canberra. Our poor results in Australia caused a rethink from top to bottom at this club and we won't allow this momentum to slip. We are reaching out to the public and now we are beginning to see a return."

London are virtually assured of a place in the lucrative knockout stages, in October, quite possibly at home. For all that they are based in Portakabins at The Stoop, the Broncos have settled in well under the landlord-tenant relationship with Harlequins rugby union club and have a following of around 4,000, which will grow if they maintain their form.

Shaun Edwards' contribution to London's victory lasted 33 minutes. Before the recurrence of a hamstring injury, he had masterminded a comeback from 14 points down. After the thick end of his career at Wigan in their heyday, his description of the Broncos as the in-form British contenders is one that will make their Brisbane namesakes sit up and take notice on Sunday.

ATHLETICS

Guidelines point to Yates

BY DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

AFTER announcing a mainly uncontroversial team for the world championships in Athens, with the notable exception of Jamie Baulch's premature inclusion at 400 metres, voices of complaint are certain to be raised loud today when the squad is finalised.

Today is the International Amateur Athletic Federation deadline for national federations to submit entries for the championships, which begin on Saturday week, and the British Athletic Federation (BAF) set yesterday as its own cut-off date for performances. The selectors were yesterday facing awkward decisions in the men's 1,500 metres and 5,000 metres.

In the 1,500 metres, there is one place vacant, to be filled by Anthony Whiteman or Matthew Yates. Whiteman ran the 3,000 metres in the European Cup and has run almost two seconds faster than Yates this season, but missed the world championships trials through illness.

On the other hand, Yates ran the trials, finishing third behind John Maycock and Kevin McKay, and achieved his fastest time of the season, 3min 36.36sec, only last weekend. Underlined for emphasis in the British selection policy is the statement that "current form will be an important selection criterion".

There are two places vacant

in the 5,000 metres, with Rob Denmark chosen already. If the selectors apply that criterion, which Malcolm Arnold, the BAF performance director, quoted in his defence, Baulch's selection, Keith Cullen and Ian Gillespie would be preferred to Adrian Passey.

All three ran well inside the world championships qualifying mark of 13min 29sec in Belgium on Saturday. Cullen recorded 13min 17.21sec, Gillespie 13min 18.06sec and Passey 13min 20.09sec. However, Passey defeated the others in the trial a week earlier but was not selected then because he did not possess the qualifying time.



Price, right, and Donohue study their cards at the launch of The Times Midland Private Banking National Bridge Challenge yesterday

Challenge offers chance to all to be champion

BY ROBERT WRIGHT

THE TIMES today launches the second year of what promises to become the biggest bridge tournament to be staged in the United Kingdom. It is open to players of all standards and offers them the chance to be a national champion. After the success of the inaugural running of The Times Midland Private Banking National Bridge Challenge, several innovative changes in the format will make this year's competition even more popular.

The principal difference is that there is a new social category, which has been specially tailored to suit social and rubber bridge players with little or no experience of competitive bridge. Of an estimated two million players in Britain, 100,000 play competitive bridge with a hard core of 5,000 regular participants. One of the primary aims of the Challenge is to dispel the elitist image that surrounds competitive bridge, while at the same time providing worthwhile rewards for

the game's more hardened players. With cash prizes exceeding £10,000, a P&O bridge cruise for two, Jarvis Hotels Care-free Breaks and numerous other special awards and discounts on bridge-related goods, there is every incentive for people to join in. The entrance fee is £4.50 per person, with all entrants receiving a free bridge diary.

Omar Sharif, the world's best-known bridge player, added his endorsement to the Challenge. "Players in the United Kingdom should be rejoicing that a tournament exists in which those of any standard can participate," he said. "The entrance fee represents remarkable value for money, and I urge all bridge players to support the event."

The early rounds in the social category can be played at home among friends, with a minimum of four pairs, either by rubber or Chicago bridge. Players not wishing to stage their own heat may enter through a bridge, golf or social club, playing their usual match pointed pairs, or directly to Chicago Bridge Promotions, who will then match players up with other pairs in their area. The final stages will be decided by duplicated hands. In all other categories, duplicate bridge will operate throughout.

Organised by the former Britain captain, David Price, of Chicago Bridge Promotions, and officially licensed by the English Bridge Union, the tournament will, as last year, have three further categories — men's ladies and mixed. Experts may only play with a non-expert partner. Price, who has been in sparkling form this year, is

enthusiastic about the tournament's appeal. "With this year's improvements, we are aiming for an entry of 10,000 people," he said. Price's bridge pedigree is impeccable: having won the first two majors of the bridge year — the Croftford Cup and the Spring Foursomes — he aims to become the first player to add the prestigious Gold Cup to that collection in the same year.

Simon Donohue, managing director of Midland Private Banking, is confident that the competition has already found a niche in the bridge calendar. "Last year provided a fine start, and I am sure that the partnership of The Times and ourselves can ensure the continued success of this quality event," he said. Entrants have until January 31 next year to qualify, and may enter as many times as they wish. Regional finals will take place between March and May next year. The 192 national finalists — 24 pairs in each category — will compete over the weekend of June 6 and 7 at the Jarvis Pennis Hall Hotel and Country Club at Sutton Coldfield. For full details of entry please either fill the coupon alongside and send it to the address given or telephone 0181 942 9506.

One player who is sure to be competing is last year's ladies' winner, Norrie Buxton. A great enthusiast, who plays most of her bridge at Roehampton, she typifies the spirit of the competition. "I love playing bridge but had never considered entering a competition before last year," she said. "To progress to the national final and to be a winner was beyond my wildest dreams."

THE TIMES
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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

This is a double-dummy problem, i.e. you can see all the hands. You have to make Four Spades on the king of hearts lead.

♠ 10 8	N	♠ K 7
♥ K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4	W	♥ 2
♦ 10	S	♦ K Q J 10 9 8
		♣ K J 10 9
		♠ A Q 6 5
		♥ A 3
		♦ 7 6 5
		♣ A 8 7 6

Contract: Four Spades by South. Lead: King of hearts

The first move is to ruff the opening heart in dummy and then, typical of the weird world of double-dummy problems, play the ace from hand. You then draw two rounds of trumps with the aid of the finesse, cash the ace of clubs and exit with the three of hearts, discarding a diamond from dummy.

West has to keep playing hearts, and on the next two rounds you discard diamonds from dummy and clubs from hand. That leaves this position, with West on lead:

♠ J 9	N	♠ J 9
♥ A	W	♥ A
♦ K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4	S	♦ K Q J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4
		♣ K J 10 9
		♠ A Q 6 5
		♥ A 3
		♦ 7 6 5
		♣ A 8 7 6

You ruff the next round of

hearts in dummy discarding a club from hand, and on this trick East is in trouble. If he discards a diamond, you cash the ace of diamonds and now one ruff establishes South's diamonds. If he discards a club, you retain the ace of diamonds as an entry, and ruff two clubs in the South hand to establish dummy's last club.

If you are used to double-dummy problems, you would notice the key heart position, of putting West in to give multiple ruff and discards. Although that still only produces nine tricks, the other thing to spot is that East will come under pressure, having to guard both minor suits.

□ You can get a tea-towel with this problem printed on it, from Mr Bridge, 01483 489961, price £5.50.

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

ZIRALEET
a. A rainforest song-bird
b. To utter cries of joy
c. Medieval string instrument

WLAT
a. A sharp slap
b. Traditional Welsh dish
c. Nausea

VERNEUK
a. To cheat or swindle
b. Turkish dance
c. Waterproof hat

YBLENT
a. Elizabethan kitchen utensil
b. Mingled/confused
c. French battle tactic

Answers on page 46

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Homage to Najdorf

Today I conclude my daily coverage of Miguel Najdorf, the Polish-Argentine grandmaster who was a leading contender for the world title in the early 1950s. Najdorf continued playing actively in tournaments well into his seventies, and some of his most brilliant victories, characterised by fluent aggression, came a decade after he was no longer a serious title contender. Here is a win against one of the world's all-time greats.

White: Miguel Najdorf
Black: Paul Keres
Los Angeles 1963

Dutch Defence

1 ♠4	♠6
2 ♠3	♠6
3 ♠3	♠6
4 ♠3	♠6
5 ♠3	♠6
6 ♠3	♠6
7 ♠3	♠6
8 ♠3	♠6
9 ♠3	♠6
10 ♠3	♠6
11 ♠3	♠6
12 ♠3	♠6
13 ♠3	♠6
14 ♠3	♠6
15 ♠3	♠6
16 ♠3	♠6
17 ♠3	♠6
18 ♠3	♠6
19 ♠3	♠6
20 ♠3	♠6
21 ♠3	♠6
22 ♠3	♠6
23 ♠3	♠6
24 ♠3	♠6
25 ♠3	♠6
26 ♠3	♠6

Times Schools
Those wishing to enter next year's Times British Schools Championship should contact the Chief Organiser, Mitchell Taylor, 4 Alders Road, Hale Lane, Edgware HA8 9QG (tel: 0181-459 6915).

Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in The Times, and is available now from bookshops or from B.T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276 at £6.99 plus postage and packing).

□ Raymond Keene writes on Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Karpov — Hort, Bugino 1972. White has a very strong attack, but his queen is attacked. Does he have to retreat, or does he have a more incisive continuation?

Solution on page 46

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Boston 3 Cleveland 1. Chicago White Sox 3 Detroit 6. New York Yankees 7 Milwaukee 3. Baltimore 5 Toronto 1.

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Pittsburgh 3 Philadelphia 2. Atlanta 5 Los Angeles 4. St. Louis Cardinals 10 Florida 2. New York Mets 3 Cincinnati 3. Montreal 8 Colorado 4. St. Louis 7 San Francisco 2.

BOWLS

PORTUGUESE: British Isles women's under-25 tournament. Scotland 1st Wales 2nd. England 3rd Ireland 4th. Final positions: 1. Scotland 2. Wales 3. England 4. Ireland 5. Singles championship: Samir 1st. 2. Gwyneth 3rd. 4. R. Kelly 5th. 6. S. Sumner 6th. 7. L. H. Jones 8th. 9. J. Taylor 10th. 11. J. Jones 12th. 13. J. Taylor 14th. 15. J. Jones 16th. 17. J. Taylor 18th. 19. J. Jones 20th. 21. J. Taylor 22nd. 23. J. Jones 24th. 25. J. Taylor 26th. 27. J. Jones 28th. 29. J. Taylor 30th. 31. J. Jones 32nd. 33. J. Taylor 34th. 35. J. Jones 36th. 37. J. Taylor 38th. 39. J. Jones 40th. 41. J. Taylor 42nd. 43. J. Jones 44th. 45. J. Taylor 46th. 47. J. Jones 48th. 49. J. Taylor 50th. 51. J. Jones 52nd. 53. J. Taylor 54th. 55. J. Jones 56th. 57. J. Taylor 58th. 59. J. Jones 60th. 61. J. Taylor 62nd. 63. J. Jones 64th. 65. J. Taylor 66th. 67. J. Jones 68th. 69. J. Taylor 70th. 71. J. Jones 72nd. 73. J. Taylor 74th. 75. J. Jones 76th. 77. J. Taylor 78th. 79. J. Jones 80th. 81. J. Taylor 82nd. 83. J. Jones 84th. 85. J. Taylor 86th. 87. J. Jones 88th. 89. J. Taylor 90th. 91. J. Jones 92nd. 93. J. Taylor 94th. 95. J. Jones 96th. 97. J. Taylor 98th. 99. J. Jones 100th. 101. J. Taylor 102nd. 103. J. Jones 104th. 105. J. Taylor 106th. 107. J.

CRICKET

England's hopes of victory rest on green policy

By Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent

THE state of the Headingley pitch falls into the same category as the measurements of Becher's Brook, or the number of times in a year Manchester United change their strip. It is a matter of national interest, a cause for public concern.

Like no other cricket ground, certainly in England and - possibly - around the world, Headingley has bred a fund of stories relating more to conditions than performance. Edgbaston may have made a recent challenge to usurp the place, but Headingley has history on its side.

In 1972 there was the furore over a pitch that turned violently from the first morning, allowing Derek Underwood to take ten wickets in a trouncing of Australia. It was expertly explained by talk of *Fusarium* disease: Australians preferred to believe it was a fix.

The ground has seen matches wrecked by untimely pitch sabotage and overflowing drains. And then, in the 1980s, came a sequence of games in which batting was a lottery against unpredictable bounce and conspicuous cracks.

England suffered some rare indignities. In 1983 they were beaten by New Zealand for the first time in this country. Three years later they were hustled out for 102 and 128 by an India attack led by Roger Binny, of whom little was heard before or since. A year later, against Pakistan, England chose to bat first and were 31 for five by noon.

Curiously, considering they have lost six and drawn two of the last ten Tests on the ground, England always fancy their chances in Leeds. There is an annual talk of it being a "typically English" pitch, whatever that may mean, and the ball often swings lavishly. There is also a ritual game of guessing which work-

aday bowler the selectors will pluck from county cricket for his five minutes of fame.

This year it appeared at first that spoilsports had been at work. The pitch has not been the same since relaid parts of the square began to be used and the selectors nipped the customary, fevered speculation in the bud by naming an unchanged team two weeks early.

Late last week, however, Mike Smith was called into the England party and the intended, relaid pitch was jettisoned in favour of one on the older part of the square, the part with a history.



Smith: late selection

This is more like it. Smith is an entirely appropriate choice for the game, not only because he actually swings the ball but because he has always been one of those county worthies regularly dismissed as sure to aspire no higher - such as Steve Watkins, for instance, or Neil Mallender.

In 1991 Watkins, the metro-nomic Glamorgan seam bowler, was whisked up for his England debut at Leeds and took five wickets in a remarkable win over West Indies. He played only two more Tests. The following July, Mallender, like Smith, an exiled Yorkshireman, was

the selectors' wild card. He took eight for 122 as Pakistan were beaten, but was picked for only one further game.

These, intriguingly, are the only Tests in the past decade that England have won at Headingley. They were also the last played on the traditionally fickle surfaces. Perhaps, then, the coincidence of Smith's recruitment and the switch of pitch really does give England supporters reason for optimism this week.

What is commonly agreed is that this is a game England must win if the dream of regaining the Ashes, so gloriously stoked at Edgbaston, is not to be prematurely extinguished. The process they must follow to win, however, excites heated debate.

There are those who believe England are asking for trouble by seeking to influence the type of pitch they play on and that they would have a better chance on something flat and easy paced. Against some opposition this may be true: against Australia it just won't wash. Play this Australia side on a benign pitch and their batsmen will pile up 600 and give Shane Warne the chance to operate with men around the bat on a wearing surface. Game over.

The England management, while anxious to stress they are doing "nothing sinister" by giving groundsman guidelines for pitch preparation, are simply imitating the custom in other countries and seeking surfaces that best suit their own strengths.

When David Graveney, the chairman of selectors, inspected the strip prepared by Andy Fogarty last week he evidently did not care for what he saw and the back-up pitch, which was more heavily grassed, has now been called into service.

"They prepare two pitches as a matter of course," Graveney explained the cause of that being the wicket vandalism at the 1975 Test against Australia. "The first one was used for the one-day international in May and some of the grass has not grown back. The second pitch has a more even covering."

What Graveney could not say, but what all England should understand, is that the priority was to avoid at all costs the bare patches that appeared at Old Trafford and lit up the features of Warne.

Of course, there is a risk involved. If the pitch starts green and tomorrow morning dawns heavily overcast, as the meteorologists predict, the combination of swing and seam could be a torment for whichever side bats first. Smith might be the hero by sundown. On the other hand, it might be Paul Reiffel.

This, however, is the lure of Leeds. Things tend to happen at Headingley and, more often than not, someone ends up staring accusingly at the pitch. Now that the gamble has been taken, and England have the kind of surface they have sought vainly all summer, it is not likely to be a dull draw.

Collyer embarks on journey to top

Sarah Potter meets a talented teenager on a fast track to cricketers success

Nothing excites the sporting spectator quite like the untold excellence of the young Ben Hollis's swashbuckling brilliance at Lord's set a storybook tone for the summer. Now, with South Africa's opening international in mid August looming, English women's cricket is alive with youthful enthusiasm.

Sarah Collyer, 16, is the youngest player in contention for a place in the senior squad. Her personality, which is unassuming, makes her confess that she is an outside bet. Her precocious talent is turning important heads in her direction.

The inaugural England Under-17 fixture last week, against a touring side from Australia, will have further advanced the claims of the Cheshire girl. Captaining her side to victory provided the biggest thrill, but an unbeaten 67, followed by a couple of wickets made it memorable for her parents.

"I was very nervous at first, but as the game progressed I felt quite comfortable making the decisions. My Dad told me there was nothing I could have done to improve on the performance."

He should know. As an advanced coach, he has skillfully nurtured his daughter's ability. "I used to go to net practice with my brother, Ben, at Neston, and when I was six years old I started to join in. Then I began playing in the boys' teams," she said.

Sedging, sometimes hurtful, was usually about being a girl in a boys' league, but soon admiration followed and Sarah went on to captain the boys' under-15 county team.

Megan Lear is England's coach and she believes that playing competitive boys' cricket is good for girls. "It gives them a big advantage because of the different pressures. A faster game gets them ready, edges them forward to the next step up," Lear said.

It was the route taken by Charlotte Edwards, who, as a 16-year-old, became En-



Collyer is ready for the challenge if she is selected to face the South Africans

gland's youngest senior player last summer. She regularly captained the Huntingdonshire under-16 boys and today, at Denstone College, Edwards will captain the England Under-21 women against a Northern XI, a game for which Collyer was unavailable.

The girls are good friends who delight in spurring one another on. One of the first people to phone and congratulate Collyer after the under-17 match last week was Edwards.

"When I watch Charlotte play I think, wow, I want to be like that," Collyer said. "The way she can just go out and do what she needs to do

whenever she needs to do it. Just amazing talent."

Lear agrees and sees similarities. "Charlotte is fantastic, because there is so much maturity about her play. My first view of Sarah was at winter training last October and I was immediately impressed by her natural ability. They are both exciting prospects," she said.

In the few weeks left before final selection, Collyer will be doing her best to impress. Her parents, though, have taught her that enjoyment is the most important thing and her schoolfriends make sure she does not become too singleminded.

"They always bring me

down to earth, because we don't even talk about cricket," she said. "It's good for me, because it takes away the pressures or worries."

Her present worry centres on waiting for her GCSE results. She hopes to "sit A levels, go to university and eventually become a physio-therapist working with special-needs children. Caring for people appeals as does the camaraderie of sport."

"I just love it... the people in the game, the team spirit and the travelling around," she said. "Doing that is like a dream come true." Do not be surprised if some of that travelling includes some well-known cricket venues.

Windows makes claim for recall

By Rupert Cox

CHELTEMHAM (Gloucestershire won toss; Pakistan A beat Gloucestershire by 49 runs

BUOYED by their five-wicket victory over Somerset, the improving Pakistan A team had little trouble maintaining their winning ways yesterday against a young Gloucestershire side containing one capped player, their captain for the day, Maryn Ball.

On another excellent batting pitch in front of a sizeable crowd, Ali Naqvi and Salim Elahi, the touring team's most prolific batsmen, thrashed the new-ball bowlers with impunity in an opening partnership of high quality.

Ball, having put the opposition in, was glad of the first drinks break which arrived with 115 on the board from only 17 overs. The interval proved beneficial for Gloucestershire for soon afterwards

Naqvi succumbed for 46, misjudging the length of an off break from Ball. When Mujahid Jamshed recklessly ran himself out first ball the momentum slowed and the prospect of a huge total receded. Elahi, with four Tests to his name, also fell to Ball for a cultured 66 made from 70 balls. Ball was easily the pick of the bowlers, yielding only 33 runs in his five spells.

With their middle order deprived of Hassan Raza, who has left for the Asia Cup, Pakistan A were faltering at 154 for five before Azhar Mahmood and Rana Qayyum re-established their dominance with an inventive stand of 95 in 19 overs.

Gloucestershire's openers, batted with all the circumspection to be expected of two players vying for one place in

the county championship side. It was more akin to a boxing match as Nick Trainor and Matthew Windows eyed each other from a distance.

Windows became more assertive once his partner had been undone by a good delivery from Abdul Razzaq, and he had survived a chance behind the wicket.

His innings of 45 was not a particularly fluent one but his is a talent that should not be stagnating in the second XI, especially given the inability of the top-order batsmen tried by Gloucestershire this season to give the innings any sort of foundation.

Only during a four-wicket stand of 91 between Windows and the former Worcestershire batsman, Matthew Church, was the Pakistani total threatened, although Reggie Williams, Jack Russell's deputy, revived hope with a sprightly 38 before Azhar Mahmood wrapped up the innings.

CHELTENHAM SCOREBOARD			
PAKISTAN A		GLOUCESTERSHIRE	
All Naqvi b Abdul	46	N J Trainor b Abdul	15
Mujahid Jamshed run out	66	M G N Windows c and b Razzaq	45
Mohammad Wasim b Ball	18	T H C Hancock c Shoaib Akhtar b Azhar	8
Rana Qayyum c Windows b Azhar	58	M J Church c Azhar b Shoaib Akhtar	0
Fazlan Ali c Williams b Hancock	1	D R Hewson c Salim b Ali Naqvi	6
Azhar Mahmood c Hewson b Avents	48	H C Williams c Shoaib Akhtar	38
Reza Paccanelli not out	21	M C J Ball c Rana b Shoaib Akhtar	20
Shoaib Akhtar not out	2	J M A Evans not out	0
Extras (lb 1, w 10, nb 12)	25	K P Stewart c Azhar	2
Total (7 wickets, 50 overs)	279	Extras (lb 12, w 11, w 6, nb 6)	35
Shoaib Akhtar and Ali Naqvi did not fall		Total (47.1 overs)	280
FALL OF WICKETS 1-113, 2-113, 3-138, 4-152, 5-154, 6-248, 7-268		FALL OF WICKETS 1-35, 2-41, 3-42, 4-139, 5-133, 6-146, 7-177, 8-223, 9-227	
SCORING: Lewis 60-41-0, Avents 81-50-2, Stewart 100-75-0, Ball 101-55-2, Hancock 9-0-41-2, Trainor 7-1-20-0		SCORING: Shoaib Akhtar 9-2-36-1, Abdul Razzaq 10-1-5-2, Azhar Mahmood 8-1-2-24-3, Ali Naqvi 8-0-39-2, Shoaib Akhtar 10-0-43-2	
Umpires: J A Holder and N J Lyons			

Surrey pitch in with baseball for 1998

ALTHOUGH Surrey's attempt to become the first county to stage a floodlit Sunday League match was nipped by the weather, they are planning an even bolder enterprise for next year. The club is looking to put on a mid-summer festival that, in addition to one or even two day/night fixtures, would include a Major League baseball event, involving some of the best players in the world.

"There has been a minor baseball match at the Oval in the past, but that was not during the cricket season," Paul Sheldon, the Surrey chief executive, explained. "It would probably not be a floodlit affair. The principal teams are keen to come but what we are going to have to be careful about is not damaging the pitch."

"We won't be able to finalise anything until the autumn. Owing to Lord MacLaurin's blueprint for the English game, the fixture list will be coming out much later than normal, possibly not until October. But we will definitely have floodlit cricket at the Oval next year. In spite of the rain, we have proved it can work," Sheldon said.

Ealham Mark II

John Major, who is likely to become involved in cricket administration, knows the history of the game. He is not, though, so well acquainted with the modern player. During one of the Test matches this summer he remarked repeatedly to Bob Bennett, the Lancashire chairman, how well Alan Ealham was performing.

Major did not, in fact, have in mind the former captain of Kent and renowned fielder who retired from first-class cricket 15 years ago. He was muddling Ealham up with his son, the England all-rounder. "Although my father did not play Test cricket, he is more famous than me," Mark says. "Everywhere I go in the country people come up to me and ask about him." Alan remains on the Kent coaching staff.

Light winds

Assuming the weather is kind, Warwickshire or Somerset will tonight become the first team to put bat to ball under lights in a Sunday League match. Warwickshire are not so much concerned with rain

EXTRA



COVER

at Edgbaston - the weather forecast is excellent - as with the possibility of high winds affecting the hydraulic arms on the cranes carrying the floodlights, which, unlike those installed at the Oval, have been sited behind the stands. Winds of 30mph or more would make the four floodlights, which are costing £40,000, too dangerous to use. Insurance policies are in place.

Warwickshire have come up with two innovations for the match: to cope with the dew, the outfield will be dragged several times with a rope and a food court is being provided for spectators, with Chinese dishes among the varied offerings for between-innings din-

ing. Officials are hoping to attract double the customary attendance for Axa Life League games.

Split loyalties

The ire felt by county scorers over the appointment of Malcolm Ashton for England's tour of West Indies is causing discord "among themselves. Vic Isaacs, of Hampshire, has said he will resign from their association should there be a vote for strike action on Monday, and David Oldham, of Somerset, has decided to follow suit.

"This is my fifteenth year without missing a match and my loyalty is to my club," he said. "I can understand the strength of feeling, because the way in which the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) put out a statement saying they would not be taking a scorer and that Ashton was going for administrative duties, was duplicitous."

"We are not a trade union and clubs in general would not find it difficult to come up with replacements. There should have been stronger action when Ashton was appointed for his first tour. The

Chelmsford guaranteed to present fitting end for Gooch

By Michael Henderson

ON HIS 44th birthday, and with a bag full of farewell messages, Graham Gooch prepares today to take his leave of the game that he has adorned for a quarter of a century. Essex's championship fixture against Worcestershire at Chelmsford will be the 391st and last match of a first-class career that began when Edward Heath was Prime Minister, a pint of beer set you back 15p and Michael Atherton wore short pants.

Gooch first played for Essex as a 19-year-old in 1973 when the club still awaited a trophy almost 100 years after its formation. They were regarded as a bit of a joke, as if they belonged to the championship to make up the numbers. Nobody could have imagined how far they would advance in the years that followed, nor how extraordinary a career that promising teenager from east London would enjoy.

How distant the recent past can appear. Gooch's first-class debut coincided with the American withdrawal from Vietnam, Sunderland beating Leeds United in the FA Cup Final, Suzi Quatro reigning supreme at No 1 with *Can the Can* and "Dirty Harry" Callahan wiping out half of San Francisco.

On the cricket front, Hampshire won the championship, Garfield Sobers made a hundred in his last Test at Lord's, Arthur Fagg refused to take his place as an umpire on the Saturday of the Edgbaston Test until Rohan Kanhai apologised and Mike Procter led Gloucestershire to the old Gillette Cup. The *Guardian* published two obituaries in a week by Neville Cardus, of Wilfred Rhodes and Otto Klemmer. That is how long ago it was.

So Gooch is about to swell the ranks of the retired, having contributed as much to the English game in the intervening years as anybody. Ian Botham and David Gower preceded him into retirement; Mike Gatting soldiers on at Middlesex, but not, one imagines, for much longer. It is entirely appropriate that Gooch should play one last time at Chelmsford, where the Essex members can pay a lingering tribute to the club's most famous player.

It will not be an exclusively sentimental occasion. Essex are still heavily involved in the hunt for a seventh championship and should be able to include Mark Ilett, their left-arm swing bowler, in the team against Worcestershire. If his heel continues to play up, then Neil Williams will deputise.

At Lord's, Middlesex play Kent in the most attractive game of the round. Middlesex, responding well to Mark Ramprakash's captaincy, are well placed to maintain their recent improvement, notwithstanding a defeat at Uxbridge two weeks ago. Kent have regrouped after the disappointment of the Benson and Hedges Cup final and the defeat at the hands of Leicestershire in a run-chase at Canterbury last week.

Glamorgan, the leaders, will go to Derby looking to collect a full set of points off a side that is in the wars. Gloucestershire, who beat Derbyshire at Cheltenham last week, complete the festival on the college ground with a game against Durham.

May appeal

When he was at Charterhouse, Peter May played cricket with Lord Prior, the politician, and Simon Raven, the author. Lord Rees-Mogg was keeper of the scorebook. Now, May's old schoolfriends are rallying to support the memorial appeal which bears his name on behalf of the London Playing Fields Society, for it is £200,000 short of its September target.

The purpose is to raise £250,000 for improvements to four of the society's playing fields in Greater London. Lottery funding will provide a further £6.7 million. "The task is formidable," Prior, the chairman, said. "Peter's widow, Virginia, and his close friends believe nothing would have given him greater pleasure than that others might enjoy similarly high quality facilities and pitches as those on which he learnt the game."

FATHER TIMES

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Major league reserved for the few

The best player never to win a major... that is the cruellest label of all, far crueler than the killing apposite "Mrs Doubtfire". It was a strange afternoon. Every time I looked out, I could see Mike Gatting, batting against two of the finest bowlers in international cricket and doing as he pleased.

And every time that I raised my eyes to the television in the Lord's press box, I could see Colin Montgomerie doing his stuff in the Open golf championship with the face of a man in a turbulent channel crossing who, despite the rising tide of evidence inside him, still believes that he is a good sailor.

'Golf is a lucrative treadmill'

For there exists in some sports a glass ceiling, and there are always players destined never to pass beyond it. Others batter their way through with difficulty. And of course, for the rare ones, it does not exist at all.

Golf is such a sport. Most of the golf season is a lucrative treadmill. Of course, the players are all doing their best, but for the big names with their reputations and their fortunes made, most tournaments do not actually matter. What matters truly, madly, deeply, are the four majors. As the

racing man once said about the Derby: "You've got no chance. All the buggers are trying."

At the majors, the stakes are immeasurably higher. Not just a little bit higher, like twice, or four times. The doubling cube in backgammon can double the stakes again and again: in a big game, it shows 64. That is roughly the difference between a golf tournament and a major.

To win a major is not necessarily a measure of ability. All the very big names are rather good at hitting golf balls. What is needed is that unquantifiable extra something that allows you to come out on top when the eyes of the world are upon you and everyone is trying.

Tennis is another sport in which the professional game operates on two distinct levels. There are tennis tournaments, and there are the grand-slam events. You can measure achievement in terms of prize-money and tournament victories. You measure greatness in the grand slams.

Goran Ivanisevic is one of the top two or three grass-court players in the world; yet he has never won Wimbledon, never won a grand-slam title.

SIMON BARNES



Midweek View

Pete Sampras, whose greater ability is a matter of millimetres, has won four Wimbledon titles, ten grand slams. He is not ten times better at hitting tennis balls. But Sampras has something within that is 64 times stronger than Ivanisevic.

Few sports have this exaggerated two-tier system. Football is a smooth transition from the parks to the international arena, and if a player can play well in the Premier League, he is unlikely to find the step up too dizzying. In rugby union, the transition is sharper, but with professionalism a good deal less sharp than it was.

But cricket is a classic two-tier game. And as I watched Gatting doing his stuff on Saturday, my mind went back to one of the most anguished interviews that I have ever conducted. It was a revelation in my understanding of sport, and it took place 13 years ago.

There are times when athletes let the mask and the clichés slip, especially those who cannot dodge their own honesty. This was nothing less than a *cri de coeur*. Gatting had played against the West Indies for England, and, horrifically, been out leg-before without playing a shot twice in the same match.

Test cricket is always different. Everything is turned a little higher. But that is not why I have failed. I have not forgotten Gatting's courage in using sport's only taboo F-word. "It was not the difficulties of facing a superior attack. The failings were of my own making. If I could just put my finger on it... I tell myself it shouldn't be too much of a problem. I should be doing well."

Gatting went on the tour to India that followed and, in desperate circumstances after the assassination of Indira Gandhi, came good at last; he

finally scored the Test century that he had long promised and went on to help himself to a Test double-hundred a match or two later. His triumph was the more worthy for the heart-break that came before.

Playing brilliantly for your country is not the point, as Mark Ramprakash, batting with Gatting last Saturday, knows better than most. Meanwhile, at Headingley tomorrow, John Crawley and Mark Butcher will sweat to prove to the world and to themselves that they can breathe the air on cricket's peak.

I will leave the last word to Ian Botham, a man who has never been in any doubt that achievement at the highest level of cricket is all that matters in life. Simon Hughes, in his excellent book *A Lot of Hard Yakkas*, tells the story of drinking a bottle of wine with the great man. Botham ordered, and added that he wanted some cheese. "Some dolcetti."

"Dolcetti," Hughes said. "That's what I said. Dolcetti." "No. Beefy. Its dolcetti." Botham gave Hughes a blowtorch stare for a full ten seconds. "How many bloody Test wickets did you take, then?"

TENNIS: TIMING OF COUNTY WEEK MEANS MISSED OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE MONEY

Coaches rue busman's holiday

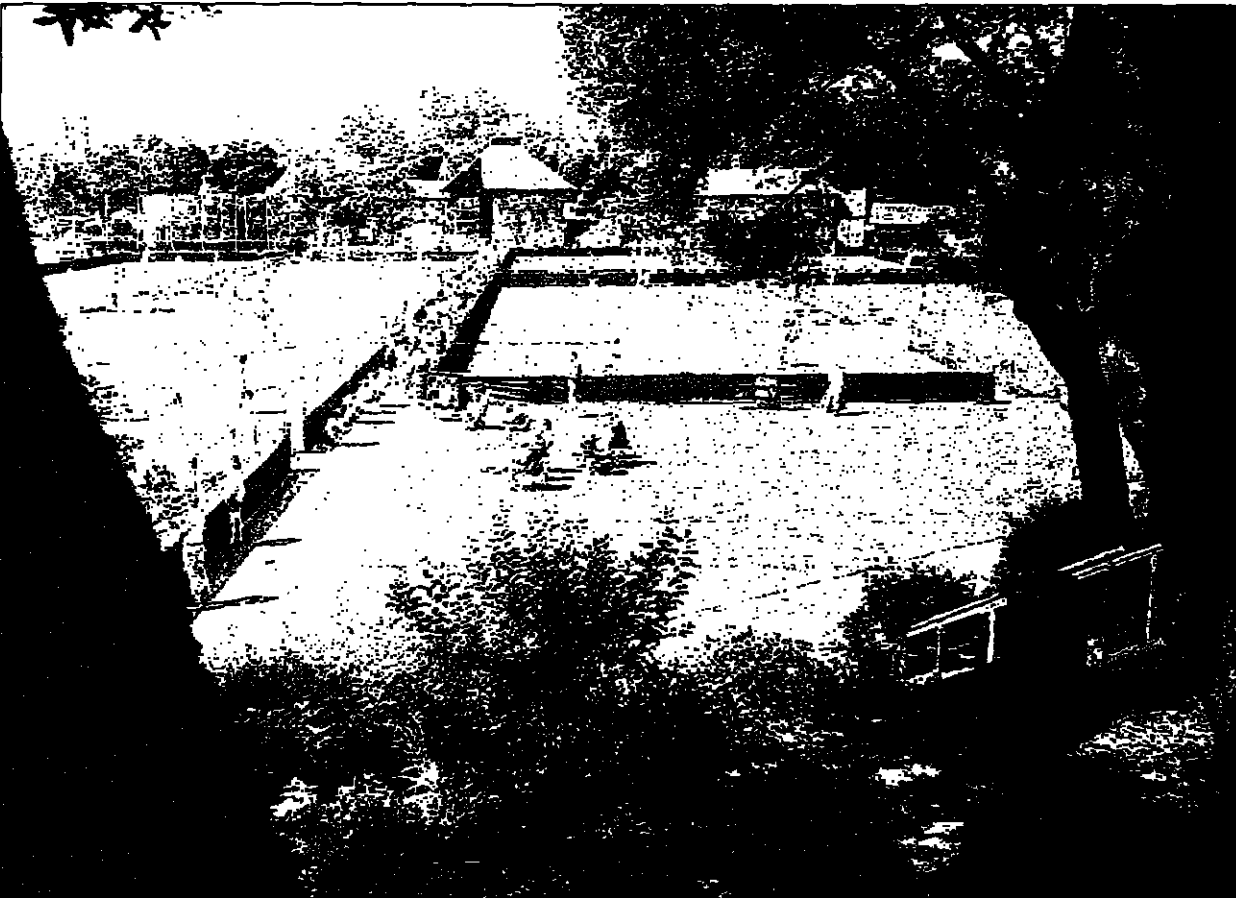


At County Tennis Week

Two details strike a chord when you study the careers of those participating in county week at Eastbourne. The first is that there must be hundreds of schoolchildren idling away the first week of their summer holidays, cursing the competition's inception. The second is that the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) will be seriously understaffed this week.

Not surprisingly, the most popular occupation among the players here is within the ranks of coaches. For 23 of the 48 assembled men, the week is spent incurring expense when they should instead be collecting funds from tennis-mad youngsters. As for the LTA, the decision not to release its staff on paid leave to contest the County Cup seemed decidedly churlish — until one realised just how many play the game to county standard. Their London offices would otherwise be as under-populated as a desert highway.

Also present are the posse of accountants, bankers, lawyers, a handful of schoolboys



Spectators soak up the sun and the atmosphere at Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, yesterday. Photograph: Tony White

and, heaven help Lee Goodall, a trainee journalist. Granted, they are not quite the hodgepodge and apprentice plumbers routinely celebrated on television in the early rounds of the FA Cup, but the week's experience will do much to forge the characters of the younger generation.

"Take Jeff Hunter, of Surrey, for example. A former British junior champion and captain of Oxford University, Hunter, now 27, must have entertained a career in tennis. He now

plays but once a week — if he can spare the time from his new occupation in management consultancy. The move away from the game was necessary, Hunter said, "basically because I had no money."

Sitting to Hunter's right as he spoke, without rancour, about the end of the road, was his "rookie" county colleague, Stuart Rhodes, 16, a schoolboy at Sevenoaks, in Kent. On Hunter's left sat James Ward, himself a leading junior but heading instead for the courts of law after completing bar school. Surrey's men are defending the County Cup with a seriously depleted squad. There is a young outfit surviving in group one, and a return to Eastbourne, is their sole concern.

Yorkshire and Devon, by contrast, have fielded squads made up largely of coaches and university scholarship students based in the United States. Yorkshire are the only county with men and women in group one but they are struggling in both — much to the dismay of Ian Blakeman, the men's team captain.

Blakeman is the sort of Yorkshireman who would a few characters of his own. As one of Blakeman's men apologised for striking a volley at his opponent, Blakeman, 38, loudly congratulated his man on the choice of shot. At a time when the LTA is considering altering the format of county week, Blakeman remains a staunch supporter, unless any change precipitates an overall improvement in British tennis.

Yorkshire, too, has been weakened considerably by the absence of four leading players but they will certainly not fail for lack of encouragement from Blakeman.

"I was brought up to believe in county tennis," Blakeman, a veteran of 20 County Cups, said yesterday. "This is a great event with a good standard, but it could be so much better. You can see the coaches improve as they get sharper through the week, but it would be so much better for the youngsters if more people played competitively all the time. The trouble is that they cannot earn the same money as they can with coaching."

Blakeman lives and breathes the game; one cannot take issue with his assessment. However, for most of the participants, particularly the Dorset men, county week offers the opportunity to renew old acquaintances over the strenuous business of three rubbers a day, five days a week. The week will unfold around any number of subplots and no amount of commitment to the county cause, apprenticeships, have long since folded, the youngsters will learn plenty more about life than accountability, banking and law.

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MOTOR RACING

Extra grand prix plan dropped

PLANS to extend the Formula One season by staging an additional grand prix at Estoril, Portugal, in November have been scrapped. The FIA, the sport's governing body, said yesterday that the Formula One team had not agreed to an extra race. The season will therefore end, as originally planned, with the European

Grand Prix at Jerez, Spain, on October 26.

The FIA added that Estoril would be considered for the 1998 season if extensive repairs were completed. The final race of the 1997 season was moved from Estoril to Jerez because of doubts over whether repairs would be carried out in time.

Benetton said yesterday that Giancarlo Fisichella had signed for the team for 1998. Fisichella, who is driving for Jordan this season, finished third in the Canadian Grand Prix in June. Neither Jean Alesi nor Gerhard Berger has won a race for Benetton this season and both may be replaced next year.

TELEVISION CHOICE

A comedian revealed

The Chair

BBC2, 7.10pm

The series in which celebrities are grilled by the psychologist, Oliver James, is the latest victim of the BBC's policy of cutting off a show in mid-run only to bring it back later. It seems a strange way to build an audience. In the chair previously occupied by the likes of Peter Mandelson and Patsy Palmer sits tonight the camp comedian Julian Clary. The questioning follows the now familiar pattern, covering Clary's relationship with his parents, his school days and his first sexual experience. Initially amused by the forthrightness of the questions ("You wouldn't get that from Anne Diamond"), Clary does his best to supply the answers. He emerges as a shy child who liked to play with farmyard animals, who was teased and bullied by his schoolmates but was actually happy to be the odd one out.

The Day That Changed My Life

BBC2, 7.30pm

Although anybody under 50 may be hard pushed to remember her, Jacqueline Mackenzie was one of the biggest television stars of the 1950s. In an age when there were few funny women on the small screen, her speciality was comic repartee. She would go to a message parlour, say, and come back to tell us all about it, supplying the voices, the faces and the sound effects. But like many stars she faded from view until in 1969 she mounted a soap box in Hyde Park to declare herself "a roaring lesbian". The episode that changed her life from being a conventionally married woman had taken place 11 years before but coming to terms with her sexuality was a slow process. She tells her story with total honesty and has not lost the flair for humour that enlivened her television performances 40 years ago.

Reputations: Lee Strasberg — Method Man

BBC2, 9.00pm

The great irony of Lee Strasberg is that for a man who hated Hollywood his legacy has been mainly in the cinema. His Actors Studio and Method style produced or influenced many of the finest American actors of the last 50 years, from Marlon Brando and Montgomery Clift through to Dustin



Julian Clary tells all (BBC2, 7.10pm)

Hoffman and Al Pacino. Determined to be taken seriously as an actress, Marilyn Monroe enrolled in his classes. Strasberg was a man of the theatre who achieved little in it, witness a disastrous production of *The Cherry Orchard* he brought to London in the 1960s. The Method, with its emphasis on inner, emotional truth, is best seen in films such as *On the Waterfront* or *Rebel Without a Cause*. The technique, which taught pupils to live the part, was a revelation to pupils and unlike many who could be merciless in pursuit of perfection.

QED: Nerve Transplant

BBC1, 10.00pm

Only five nerve transplant operations have been successfully performed, all by Dr Susan Mackinnon, an American surgeon based in St Louis, Missouri. The film follows her as she carries out the sixth. The nerves of a donor who died of a heart attack will be transplanted into Bart, a 16-year-old who severed his arm in a boxing accident. Refusing to accept that the arm might have to be amputated, Bart's parents have brought him 500 miles from Detroit to make use of Mackinnon's expertise. The arm requires 14 hours of surgery and there is the danger of rejection afterwards. But Mackinnon's record is impressive. Other patients we meet include a three-year-old girl who fell into a lawn mower and a young man called J.R. who also had an accident with a mower.

RADIO CHOICE

BBC Proms 97

Radio 3, 2.00pm

If you've got it, they used to say, flaunt it. "It" meant some physical attribute or other, and more often than not, that meant feminine. Radio 3 planners have applied the aphorism to the 1997 Proms. There has never been a Prom season when Radio 3 has made so much of this jewel in its crown. The most enterprising innovation this year is the 2.00pm repeat of the whole concert relayed two days earlier — a boon for those of us who couldn't get tickets. Today's Proms coverage also includes the first of this year's late-night events (at 10.00pm), and there's the usual *Proms Composer of the Week* (John Adams at noon, Beethoven at 11.30pm). I nearly forgot: the main Prom is at 7.00pm.

RADIO 1

7.00am Kevin Greener 8.00am Simon Mayo 11.30am Radio 1 Roadshow 12.00pm Newsday 12.45 John Peel 1.00pm Radio 1 Breakfast 1.30pm Radio 1 News 1.55pm Radio 1 News 2.00pm Radio 1 News 2.15pm Radio 1 News 2.30pm Radio 1 News 2.45pm Radio 1 News 3.00pm Radio 1 News 3.15pm Radio 1 News 3.30pm Radio 1 News 3.45pm Radio 1 News 4.00pm Radio 1 News 4.15pm Radio 1 News 4.30pm Radio 1 News 4.45pm Radio 1 News 5.00pm Radio 1 News 5.15pm Radio 1 News 5.30pm Radio 1 News 5.45pm Radio 1 News 6.00pm Radio 1 News 6.15pm Radio 1 News 6.30pm Radio 1 News 6.45pm Radio 1 News 6.55pm Radio 1 News 7.00pm Radio 1 News 7.15pm Radio 1 News 7.30pm Radio 1 News 7.45pm Radio 1 News 8.00pm Radio 1 News 8.15pm Radio 1 News 8.30pm Radio 1 News 8.45pm Radio 1 News 9.00pm Radio 1 News 9.15pm Radio 1 News 9.30pm Radio 1 News 9.45pm Radio 1 News 10.00pm Radio 1 News 10.15pm Radio 1 News 10.30pm Radio 1 News 10.45pm Radio 1 News 11.00pm Radio 1 News 11.15pm Radio 1 News 11.30pm Radio 1 News 11.45pm Radio 1 News 12.00pm 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Difficult to make drama out of these crises

Unexpectedly, *The Broker's Man* (BBC1) finished in better shape than anybody who witnessed its debut six weeks ago could possibly have expected. This final story, like its predecessors, spread over two weeks, was really not bad at all. Tim O'Mara and Al Hunter Ashton, the writers, had at last come up with a decent plot and in *Grant Masters* they had the perfect actor to bring it to life. Nobody inhabits the borders of madness quite as convincingly as Masters.

Significantly, and perhaps worryingly for the show's longer term future, the story in question had almost nothing to do with insurance. Masters played William Ashton, an aristocratic Falklands veteran who had been drummed out of the army after being court-martialled for cowardice. He also had a large dent on his forehead, the result, we learnt last

night, of being shot at by his own commanding officer, the real coward of the piece.

The revelation that Ashton was really a deeply misunderstood good guy was almost a twist too far. After all, only a week before, hadn't he bayoneted his father's death and provided a moral lesson for parents everywhere? If you have an unloving son, it's probably wise not to pick an argument with him while sitting in the middle of your prized collection of military weaponry. But I digress.

For, whatever the quality of last night's episode, two big problems remain. First, that over the past six weeks there has been nothing to suggest that insurance investigation is exactly the source material that television drama has been waiting for. The second is *Jimmy* Griffin (Kevin Whately), the most unlikely romantic lead since... well, probably only since Sam Bliss: it's been that sort of summer.

Last night, as Addison held him hostage, he had them queuing up at the police barricade. Nothing excessive (there being no passing love interest in this story), just former wife and former mistress. I wondered if they might draw straws, but instead they had a civilised conversation. Strangely, neither got round to "what on earth do we see in this dull, impoverished, overworked klutz", but settled for "are we still in competition together?". Answer - not any longer. The wife won, which was nice, as Annette Ekblom had been rather good and only got to look glamorous once.

Although Whately was always slightly curious about the character of Griffin, the problems stem from the writing. Make her, approaching sex middle-aged, broken marriage, teenage children and job that leaves no time for

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

anything else. I could write a list of the times we've seen that before on television but I don't think it would leave room for anything else... such as pointing out that Sarah-Jane Potts, who played the equally familiar character of Harriet (young, sparky, sexy, etcetera) was terrific. Time, I think for others.

Quest? What quest? That's what I thought when *Wildlife on One* (BBC1) returned for a short sum-

mer season with the story of what David Attenborough inevitably described as "perhaps our most beloved mammal". Well, certainly our most filmed. Over the years there seem to have been many other documentaries that you or I could probably make one. It's easy - babbling brooks, twitching noses, some underwater stuff of them swimming and that absolute other documentary must-have - the simulated other-hunt. That, indeed, pretty much covered the opening five minutes of *Martha Holmes's* addition to the *oeuvre*. Then, suddenly, things got rapidly more original and rapidly better.

It was the introduction of a bit of well-explained science that transformed things. Hans Kruuk, a softly spoken researcher, has spent 15 years trying to discover why it is that, despite a comparative improvement in the general cleanliness of our waterways, otters are

to be found in some places but not in many, many others. Now he has the answer and I suggest that any others reading this column should stop now.

What Kruuk has discovered is that it is very little fun being an otter. You spend all day fishing in freezing water, then you have to spend hours grooming your insulating layers of fur - it's a distinctly tiring business. So it's not surprising that when it comes to the vital business of reproduction, more often than not it's a case of "not tonight, Tarka". The average female would be doing well to get in two litters of two cubs before she keels over from exhaustion.

Combine that low reproduction rate with high mortality (hundreds of otters are killed by cars every year) and it is a miracle that there are any otters at all. As Kruuk said: "It's a way of life that

works... but only just." What is needed apparently is more fish in our rivers (which for those examining the joke potential, is why otters cross roads in the first place) and more artificial holes.

Over on Channel 4, Paul Yule had made a very stylish film, *Lone Star Hate*, about a very nasty subject, the murder of Nicholas West, a young man who had committed the "crime" of being gay in a small town. In the gun-toting, God-quoting town of Tyler, being gay was definitely not a good idea.

Yule's film was beautifully shot and cleverly edited, but eventually proved too stylish for its own good, being both too long and taking too purrulent an interest in the finer detail of how West met his end and how, in turn, the two men convicted of his murder would one day meet theirs. "The sooner, the better," said one miserable unrepentant on Death Row. It was difficult to disagree.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (65120)
7.00am BBC Breakfast News (77787)
8.00am Breakfast News Extra (3157762)
9.20am Ready, Steady, Cook (1) (1588168)
9.50am Kilroy (1) (5250235)

10.30am Who'll Do the Pudding? (20168)
11.00am News (1) and weather (7741014)
11.05am Due South: Bertie's faithful wife
Defender causes headaches by biting
an Animal Control Officer. With Paul
Gross (1) (4308748)

11.50am Good Neighbours (2768897)
12.00am News (1) and weather (8229507)
12.05pm Wipeout (1) (1) (8060255)
12.35am Neighbours (1) (8654014)

1.00am News (1) and weather (70865)
1.30am Regional News (1) (7274932)
1.40am Perry Mason: The Case of the
Mysterious Mobster A one-time hoodlum
is charged with murdering his wife (1)
(8165782)

3.10am Quincy A doctor treats a gunshot victim
but misses another serious injury which
proves fatal (2224205)
4.00am Popeye (613385) 4.10am The
Thunderbirds (6148897) 4.20am Morph TV
with Tony Hart (6128033) 4.35am Prince of
Atlantis (3178897) 5.00am Newsround (1)
(7807878) 5.10am Bright Sparks (1)
(4016865)

5.35am Neighbours (1) (8701304)
6.00am News (1) and weather (2965)
6.30am Regional News (1) (830)

6.30am Big Break Stars of the Future New
series, for snooker star wannabes hosted
by Jim Davidson (1) (743)

7.30am Not Gadgetz This week's gadgets
presented by Carol Vorderman include
the truth phone, anti-noise headphones
and a silent alarm clock (1) (592)

8.00am The National Lottery Live: former
Go West singer Peter Cox (583607)
8.15am Selection Box: Hi-De-Hi! Nostalgic
celebrity fans relive some of the best
moments from the holiday camp comedy
(1) (585149)

8.50am Points of View (1) (991675)
9.00am News (1) and weather (8149)
9.20am National Lottery Update (153471)

10.30am Men Behaving Badly Tony's sordid
imagination begins to work overtime as
Deborah's close friend Judy visits (1) (7)
(7655)

10.00am QED: Nerve Transplant
The results of pioneering surgery
Dr Susan Mackinnon, as she prepares to
perform nerve transplant surgery on a
teenage boy with a paralysed right arm
(1) (5238)

10.30am The X-Files: End Game: Scully finally
contacts Mulder on the phone just as he
wanders into her hotel room. David
Duchovny and Gillian Anderson star (2/2)
(1) (384174)

11.20am Smith and Jones (1) (278217)
11.50am Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia
(1974) with Warren Oates. A wealthy
Mexican general offers \$1 million for the
head of his daughter's seducer. Directed
by Sam Peckinpah (1) (809897)

1.40am Weather (2074163)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme
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BBC2

6.00am Open University: Structural
Components (7731236) 6.25am Living with
Technology (9725323)

7.15am See Hear: Breakfast News (1 and
signing) (869052)

7.30am Teletubbies (7715410) 7.55am Postman
Pat (6316168) 8.10am The Racoon
(675707) 8.35am Blue Peter (3150168)
8.50am Spicemen (923528) 9.25am Smart
(224588) 10.00am Moomin (3782025)
10.25am Fireman Sam (1657187) 10.40am
Bump (2484205) 10.45am Teletubbies
(118633) 11.15am Record (8004694) 11.40am
Moon Over Miami (997930)

12.30pm Working Lunch (38304)

1.00am A to Z of Food (2586255) 1.10am
Beachgrove Garden (6026233) 1.40am
Blackbustards (824588) 2.05am Today's
Gourmet (82768168) 2.35am Take a Meal
With Bordeaux (160743) 2.55am News (1)
(222385) 3.55am News (1) (2102036)

4.00am Macao (1952) with Robert M. Jones, Jane
Russell and William Bendix. The adventures
of three people on arrival at the exotic
port. Directed by Josef von Sternberg
(438743)

5.20am Going Going Gone (4446491)
5.50am LifeLine (1) (81830)

8.00am Star Trek: The Next Generation (1) (1)
(92101)

8.45am Ren and Stimpy (240033)

7.10am The Chair: Julie Clary
reveals the truth about her life and how
she would like to experience life as a woman and have two
daughters (564365)

7.30am The Day That Changed My
Life: From High Heels to
Sensible Shoes: Jacqueline MacKenzie
returns to the house where her life
changed forever (1) (148)

8.00am One Foot in the Past: The life of architect
George Gilbert Scott Jr., a National Trust
owned Victorian workhouse, and the
actress Miriam Margolyes returns to
Broadstairs (1) (941)

8.30am Wildlife Showcase: The Lost Whales
How a school of oceanic right whales
has appeared off the Campbell Islands in
the Antarctic Ocean (1) (8526) WALES:
Homeland at the Royal Welsh Show

9.00am Reputations: The acting tutor
Les Strassberg and the Method
style of acting he pioneered (1) (7120)

10.00am Staple and Son (1) (76061)
WALES: Wildlife Showcase 10.25am
Talking Tails (22472) 10.30am Newsnight
(1) (42556) 11.15am Gaytime TV (1)
(75004) 11.55am Weather (1) (213323) 12.00am
The Night Shift Hour (33368)

12.30am Learning Zone: The Big Picture
1.00am Hubbard Brook: The Chemistry of
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HTV

6.00am GMTV (2527728)
9.25am Win, Lose or Draw (1) (1572507)
9.55am Judge Judy (1) (4285235)
10.20am News (1) (8070035)

10.25am Regional News (8079304)
10.30am The Good Family (1990) with Mary Tyler
Moore, Tony Curtis and Kelly Curtis
Black comedy about a family's unexpected
transformation after the father's
sudden death. Directed by Gino
Tinau (9478265)

12.20am Regional News (8128491)
12.30pm News (1) and weather (8880439)
12.55am Shortland Street (6558630) 1.25am Home
and Away (1) (3780675) 1.50am Look and
Cook (1) (5552878) 2.20am Contract for
Murder (1) (5555945)

3.20am News (1) (178236)

3.25am Regional News (1) (1797507)

3.30am Tots TV (1) (4097781) 3.40am Giggly
Albums (1) (388304) 3.50am Cartoon Time
(138458) 4.00am Animal Shelf (782946)
4.10am Chatterbox Pines (781530)
4.20am Art Attack (6424507) 4.40am Sabrina
the Teenage Witch (1) (1) (8226238)

5.10am Can Cook: The Best of China (1)
(140439)

5.40am News (1) (83410)

6.00am Home and Away (1) (104507)
6.25am HTV Weather (151548)

6.30am The West Tonight (1) (491)

10.00am Emmet: Kim turns a deaf ear to
protesters and goes to the conclusion
that a giant bear on the rampage is
hiding an orphan on the farm (1) (7897)

7.30am Coronation Street: Steve makes big
plans for the future (1) (675)

8.00am Inspector Morse: The Last Enemy
After a body is found floating in a canal,
Morse and Lewis come to the conclusion
the victim was bumped off by a jealous
rival for a prestigious position at an
Oxford college (1) (1) (5526)

10.00am News (1) and weather (78007)

10.30am Regional News (1) (823304)

10.40am Gayle's World: Brenda Gilchrist's guests
include Malandra Burrows, Gabrielle
Glister and Jerry Hayes (1) (387897)

11.10am Live at Jingleworld: features comics Tim
Clark, Graham Norton and Steve McGraw
(1) (288217)

11.40am Movie Show Special: Die Hard with a
Vengeance (244033)

12.20am Short Story Cinema (5012927)

1.10am Cinema (1977) with Jason Evers, Leon
Claus and Anthony Quinn. Chiller about
a giant bear on the rampage in Alaska.
Directed by Robert E. Flinn (66502)

2.55am The Big Match Replayed (1) (5421368)
3.35am Sounds Classified (1) (8032250)
4.20am Sound Bites (7832618) 4.35am Time
Place (1) (1) (2262437) 5.00am Coronation
Street (1) (1) (5908) 5.30am News

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CENTRAL

As HTV West except:
10.30am Film: Changes (9476265)<



BRIDGE 42

Are you up to the challenge of competition?

SPORT

WEDNESDAY JULY 23 1997

Australia claim to have seized initiative after Headingley switch

England create fever pitch

By RICHARD HOBSON

ENGLAND yesterday dismissed suggestions of skulduggery prompted by the fear of Shane Warne when they explained the decision to switch the Headingley pitch for the fourth Test, which begins tomorrow. However, Andy Fogarty, the groundsman, said that the original choice remained "the best on the square", while Australia sought to capitalise on what they believe is evidence that they have seized the initiative.

While the first track was bare at the ends, which would clearly assist Warne, the second is dry with an even covering of grass. "There is no question of anybody ordering a change for any sinister reasons," David Graveney, the chairman of selectors, said yesterday. Graveney maintained that the ultimate decision over which pitch to use rested with Harry Brind, the England and Wales Cricket

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Precocious talent... 44
TTC details... 45

Board inspector of pitches. Graveney and Brind were at the ground four days ago.

"The suggestion that myself or the coach [David Lloyd] have a major influence over the preparation is incorrect. I believe this will be a good pitch."

Lloyd added: "If anybody thinks we are in the business of skulduggery they should remember the two pitches at Lord's and Old Trafford." Glenn McGrath, in the first instance, and Warne in the second were the principal beneficiaries on those two occasions.

Fogarty, though, reiterated that he had no qualms about playing on the original surface, which was used for the Texaco Trophy one-day international in May. He said: "It is still the best on the square... he [Brind] came about a week ago and he felt that the ends might be a bit bare. The problem is that the rolling tended to squeeze out the moisture and kill the grass



Hussain, right, and Atherton, lying down, inspect the pitch that will now be used for the Headingley Test, rather than the one to its left

growth. I am happy to go along with what they want."

Australia have shown sustained improvement since their defeat at Edgbaston in the first Test and Warne suggested in the third at Old Trafford, where he took nine wickets, that he might become the most influential player in the series. Australia have quickly capitalised on perceived uncertainty in the England ranks. Mark Taylor, the

captain, after hearing of the switch, said: "I think it is a sign they are worried... it is flatter than a pancake. We will use it as a spur. Shane is a world-class cricketer who will bowl well on any wicket."

The Australia squad and officials met the Queen at Buckingham Palace yesterday morning, before arriving at Headingley late in the afternoon. Geoff Marshall, the Australia coach, added: "We are disappointed with what we have been told but that is what

has happened and the people who made the decision will have to live with it for the rest of their lives. We will use it as a spur. Shane is a world-class cricketer who will bowl well on any wicket."

Mike Gatting, an England selector, said: "I think Australia have the right attitude. I am sure they will go out to play to win as much as they always do."

Ironically, the game is at least as likely to be determined

by swing than movement off the pitch. Headingley has long been renowned as one of the most helpful grounds for swing bowlers and England acknowledged as much yesterday when they released Phil Tufnell for the fourth time in the series and promoted Mike Smith from providing cover for Dean Headley to being a "selection option" in his own right.

The selectors stressed that they had retained the option of

making an alteration when they originally announced the unchanged 12 following the defeat in Manchester. Smith, the left-arm seam bowler from Gloucestershire, is the leading wicket-taker in the country, with 65 at an average of 14.14, and has three times claimed ten victims in a match. His returned figures of ten for 132 against Yorkshire here in June.

Indeed, with Headley coming through a 30-minute test on his side strain in the nets yesterday, the possibility remains that Smith, born a few miles from the ground in Dewsbury, could make his debut at the expense of Andrew Caddick.

Smith received a glowing reference from Graveney, who believes that he has benefited from leading the Gloucestershire bowling attack in the absence of Courtney Walsh. "Coming from behind Courtney's shadow has been a big step forward for his confidence and if you break down his wickets he has dismissed a lot of quality players this season."

Sebastian Coe, the double Olympic gold medal-winner and former MP, spoke for an hour during the squad's get-together near Harrogate on Monday. Lloyd said that physical pursuits had been restricted to archery, clay-pigeon shooting and golf, and that another session — he declined to use the words "motivational" or "bonding" — had been planned for the end of the Ashes series.

Game prone to surface tension

By SIMON WILDE

IT IS rare, but not unknown, for a pitch to be changed at the eleventh hour. In fact, it happened two weeks ago when, on the eve of their NatWest Trophy second-round tie with Nottinghamshire, Surrey switched to a recently used strip on the Oval square in the belief that it would help their spin attack.

"The one we had originally intended to use did not dry in time," Paul Brind, the Oval's head groundsman, said yesterday. "So we switched to an old one that had been used in the previous round."

"As it happened, Surrey lost but the players did not complain. I think they knew the result was down to the fact that they played badly. That is the only time that I can remember the pitch being changed in my eight years at the Oval."

Pitch preparation is perhaps more uniform, and good practices more common, at the Oval than at any other English ground. Elsewhere, players have sometimes not known until the morning of the match which pitch they would be playing on, usually for innocent reasons such as the groundsman having trouble with a newly relaid pitch. The Laws state that before the toss responsibility for the selection and preparation of a pitch lies with "the executive of the ground", a conveniently nebulous phrase allowing everyone from groundsman to management of the home team to have their say.

In the 1774 code of the Laws, the visiting team was granted the right to choose the place for wickets to be pitched but this proved so considerable an advantage that by 1811 the

choice was handed to the umpires, though there have been some exotic practices in Test matches down the years.

At Sydney in 1882, Australia were allowed to select a fresh pitch after England had been dismissed cheaply on an unsuitable surface: hardly surprisingly, they won the match. On the same ground a year later, England played their two innings on one pitch, Australia theirs on another. A fortnight later, the teams used new tracks for all four innings. Nowadays, the umpires take control only after the toss.

"My sympathies are with the Headingley groundstaff," Brind said. "If the Australians want to complain, let them. If we want to play on a particular wicket, we will. I am sure they do the same sort of thing in their own country."

Ravanelli returns to face Gateshead

By DAVID MADDOCK

THERE was a delicious irony to Fabrizio Ravanelli's arrival on Teesside yesterday. After a summer absence spent praying for an escape from Middlesbrough, a club that he has constantly criticised as being "small-time", he returned reluctantly to the news that his first pre-season opponents will be Gateshead.

Although the Italy international has negotiated long and hard with any club that would listen, he has been unable to effect a transfer and instead has announced, through a club statement, that his immediate future lies with the club that paid £7 million to bring him to England a year ago.

"Fabrizio Ravanelli is returning to Middlesbrough and will commence training with the team tomorrow," the statement read. "He is looking forward to the start of the new season and is fully committed to Middlesbrough Football Club. His ambition is

to help the club win promotion this season."

Ravanelli flew into Teesside yesterday for talks with Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough manager, and although an uneasy truce has been called in the dispute between player and club, which caused the Italian to refuse to attend pre-season training, his mood cannot have been lightened by Middlesbrough's roster of pre-season matches. He will miss

a game against Bradford City this evening, but another contest is scheduled against non-League Gateshead on Friday night, a far cry from the kind of high-profile fixture he craves.

He may be hoping that Everton, who pulled out of talks last week, may offer him another chance to swap life in the Nationwide League first division for the FA Cup Premier League. Everton appear to have lost out in the race to sign Les Ferdinand — who, if he leaves Newcastle United this week, appears most likely to join Tottenham Hotspur — and that could prompt them to return with an improved offer to the Italian.

Paul Ince was unveiled as the latest Liverpool signing at a press conference yesterday, an occasion at which the England midfielder player revealed that Anfield has long been his preferred destination, once he had decided to leave Internazionale in Milan. "I knew it was Liverpool for me,"

he said. "They are a massive club and I honestly believe they should have won the championship last season, but for a few mistakes towards the end."

Fifa, the world governing body of football, yesterday authorised the transfer of Ronaldo, the Brazil international, from Barcelona to Internazionale. Fifa announced that the player had not contravened rules by buying out his contract in Spain and was free to join later immediately. Ronaldo could make his debut against Manchester United in a pre-season game this weekend.

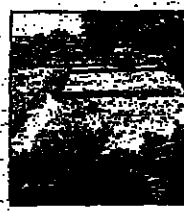
Coventry City yesterday completed the £200,000 transfer of Roland Nilsson, the Sweden international, from Helsingborgs. The full back, 33, previously played with Sheffield Wednesday. Southampton have paid £1.4 million for José Domínguez, the Benfica winger, who was formerly with Birmingham City.



Ince: arrival

TENNIS 46

Why county week still has plenty to offer



Rangers begin quest for place among the elite

Kevin McCarran thinks that the Scottish champions have little to fear from Gotu

EVEN with the spoils of a European Cup tie at stake, a visit to the Faeroe Islands still resembles a pleasure trip rather than a crusade. On Monday, Tommy Moller-Nielsen, the Rangers first-team coach, stood on the jetty at Oyrargjogv and, with a borrowed rod, did a little fishing while he waited for the ferry for the journey from airport to hotel.

Rangers, with £14 million spent on summer signings, may dream of a place in the heartland of Continental football, contesting sophisticated fixtures in Munich, Turin, or Madrid. First, however, they must attend to business on the fringes of Europe, and at the outermost edge of public interest. Only by losing to the amateurs of Gotu this evening could Rangers draw attention to themselves.

Such defeat is barely feasible. The match takes place at the Faeroese National Stadium at Toftir, but Gotu itself is a village of only 1,000 people. Even if their Icelandic coach, Pal Gudlaugsson, could draw players from all the islands, he would still have a population of no more than 50,000 from which to conduct a recruitment drive.

An inclination to grumble over the necessity of meeting Gotu at all is soon quelled by the reflection that it is the same record of Scottish clubs over several seasons that has seen them dragged down into this, the first of two preliminary rounds. Once the Faeroese champions have been beaten, Rangers must overcome IFK Gothenburg if they are to reach the European Champions' League.

There is an earnest mood about Rangers, home of the recognition that their opponents are part of a proud culture. Seven years ago, the Faeroe Islands defeated Austria in a European championship match and the goalkeeper on that occasion, Jens Martin Knudsen, will stand behind the posts for Gotu tonight.

He used to wear a bobble hat on the field, but has

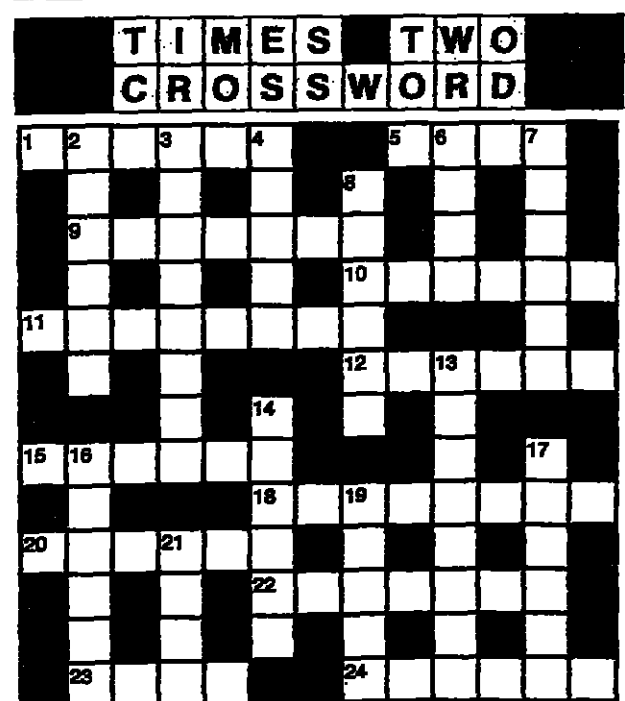
since sacrificed it in the interests of credibility. The Faeroese appear adept at reconciling their own traditions with contemporary practice. Satellite dishes abound, but it is also commonplace to see buildings, such as the modern hotel in which Rangers are based, with turf roofs. Restaurants provide the usual supply of pizzas and pasta, but puffin, too, is often to be found on the menu.

The presence of that dish reflects an unsentimental attitude towards the rich birdlife that draws tourists here and, like all communities which depend on a fishing fleet for economic survival, the Faeroe Islands are acquainted with harsh truths. Moller-Nielsen once coached here, and guarantees that Gotu, whatever their shortcomings, will be strong, abrasive opponents.

This particular portion of Denmark, which has enjoyed home rule since 1948, seems, mystifyingly, to have found a permanent place on the Scottish football itinerary. The national team had a European championship tie here two years ago, while Motherwell and Raith Rovers have been drawn against Faeroese clubs since.

Accordingly, there is little novelty about the match that awaits Rangers. Despite being without several players, including the suspended Paul Gascoigne, Walter Smith, the brook club's manager, will expect to see the amateurs of Gotu dispatched efficiently. He may, however, be grateful if his new goalkeeper, Antti Niemelä, is occasionally tested. The Finn, bought from FC Copenhagen, could get the chance to make himself first choice, now that the injured Andy Goram is apparently out of favour.

Rangers, though, have little to fear. Trauma is reserved for the handful of their supporters who have made the journey only to find, that, on the Faeroe Islands, the sale of liquor is rigorously controlled.



No 1153

ACROSS

- 1 Prestige: official seal (6)
- 5 Part of leg; small animal (4)
- 9 A jeer (7)
- 10 Breath disorder (6)
- 11 On the wagon (5)
- 12 Wild parties (6)
- 15 Pancake; verbiage (6)
- 18 Long, green salad plant (5)
- 20 Outlaw (6)
- 22 Of the surroundings (7)
- 23 Look for (4)
- 24 Smuggle (6)

DOWN

- 2 Fighter: soap family (6)
- 3 Become friends (with) (3,2,3)
- 4 Breakfast food; health (5)
- 6 Cousin's mum (4)
- 7 Cooked in burning brandy (6)
- 8 Zigzag ski race (6)
- 13 Short of sense (colloq.) (5)
- 14 Drink of gods (6)
- 16 Counting frame (6)
- 17 Legume seed eg for soup (6)
- 19 One from Havana (5)
- 21 Deceive: one deceived (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1152

- ACROSS: 1 Disembled 8 Bleep 9 Somalia 10 Good 11 Woodwind 13 Mifred 14 Carles 17 Partisan 19 Down 22 Unkempt 23 Onion 24 Deliriously

- DOWN: 1 Debag 2 Step out 3 Espy 4 Bishop 5 Remedial 6 Delhi 7 Tardis 12 Petit mal 13 Mops up 15 Ivories 16 Falter 18 Raked 20 Nancy 21 Solo

SOLUTION TO TIMES TWO CROSSWORD 1148

In association with BRITISH MIDLAND

- ACROSS: 1 Cord 3 Landlord 8 Lute 9 Crudities 11 Sufferance 14 Gaelic 15 Strike 17 Sinologist 20 Epilogue 21 Warn 22 Pressing 23 Cell

- DOWN: 1 Call sign 2 Ratified 4 Abroad 5 Dedication 6 Oath 7 Dusk 10 Felicitous 12 Mitigate 13 Sentinel 16 Woburn 18 Seep 19 Pine

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